

# THE TIMES

Saturday Review:  
Poor Pierrot, by  
Richard Holmes, p 6

## Labour Party threat to oust Scottish 'rebel' group

Members of the "rebel" Scottish Labour Party were warned yesterday that they were in danger of being excluded from the British party. Mr James McGrandle, the Labour Party's interim organizer in Scotland, said the rebel group, which is bitterly opposed to Labour's devolution plans, could make itself ineligible for British party membership if it recruited members and put up local or national candidates.

## Crucial meeting in Glasgow today

From Ronald Faux, Glasgow  
An appeal to socialists in Scotland who joined the "rebel" Scottish Labour Party to think again and return to the official party came yesterday from Mr James McGrandle, interim organizer for the party in Scotland.

In a statement he warned the rebels they were in danger of excluding themselves from the British Labour Party. If a new organization recruited members and put up candidates for local government, the Scottish Assembly or national government elections the new group would be a political party in the true sense.

"If this is the case, and it seems clear that it is, then their party is ineligible for affiliation to the British Labour Party and their membership is ineligible to participate in the Labour Party."

Mr James Sillar, Labour MP for Argyll and Bute, who is closely associated with the Scottish Labour Party, described the statement as "a complex political situation. It amounts to no instruction to our expulsion from the British Labour Party. The situation is clearly that it is half the advance of the party I believe it will speed it."

Today the Scottish executive of the Labour Party meets in Glasgow to discuss the delicate situation created in Scotland by a supposed socialist party. It is a move to take the party out of the official party is ignored, and according to early signs, action is likely to be taken. The breakaway party is to be inaugurated in Glasgow on January 15. It is coming from small group of socialists who support Mr Sillar's intense opposition to the Government's devolution White Paper. They share the proposals would not be enough to lead to the Scottish Assembly, and instead a more direct control over economic and industrial matters would be handed over by Whitehall to the assembly executive. The group also believes Scotland should have a Labour

Party which is independent of control by the National Executive Committee at Transport House. In the past leaders of the party in Scotland have frequently pointed out that there is no such thing as the Scottish Labour Party. It is, in fact, the Scottish council of the British Labour Party and is subordinate to the national executive in London.

The new party believes the socialist movement should be confronting the Scottish National Party with "real socialist policies" and not give the impression of reacting constantly to Nationalist gains. Such an impression of expediency, they say, is causing support for the official party in Scotland to melt away. The opinion polls and by-election results recently tend to support this view.

The position of Transport House is very delicate. The new party has claimed two executive members of the Labour Party's Scottish council and there is little chance now that Mr McGrandle's olive branch will be accepted. The new party has printed 2,000 membership forms. Recruiting is to begin soon and Mr Alec Neil has been appointed full-time secretary.

If the new movement is successful in appealing to disillusioned Labour voters who are on the brink of turning to the Scottish National Party, it will be a double danger for the official Labour movement. According to Mr McGrandle's definition, the group will be clearly unconstitutional and its members subject to expulsion from the Labour Party.

Members of the official party find it hard to understand how Mr Sillar could continue in his present position. If he were to be expelled as an MP, that would put the Government's majority at risk. The greatest fear within the party in Scotland, however, is that if the Sillar group is expelled, it could prove to be a dangerous blow to the Labour vote in Scotland, where 35 Labour MPs have nationalities immediately behind them.

In his statement, Mr McGrandle said he intended to set out the constitutional position of the British Labour Party in Scotland.

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## Minister says Right Rev Hugh Montefiore preached Monty Python sermon in Washington Bishop attacked for evidence at US Concord hearing

By Arthur Reed  
Air Correspondent

Two senior British aviation figures made stinging attacks yesterday on the Bishop of Kingston, the Right Rev Hugh Montefiore, over the evidence which he gave at an inquiry in Washington earlier this week against the Concord supersonic airliner on noise grounds.

Mr Kaufman, Minister of State at the Department of Industry, who led the presentation at the hearing of the British case for Concord to be allowed to land in the United States, said that the bishop had preached "a Monty Python sermon" and described his appearance before the inquiry as "a musical hall turn".

Lord Boyd-Carpenter, chairman of the Civil Aviation Authority, asked: "Would it not have been more useful, not to say more appropriate, if he had devoted his time to spiritual matters, rather than the temporal sort of sky-piloting for which I grant licences?"

The bishop, addressing the inquiry as president of the Heathrow Association for the Control of Aircraft Noise, said that the noise of Concord could be unbearable, and described it as being "more like a secular form of purgatory".

He said yesterday: "Concord is a wonderful technological achievement and a machine of great beauty. But as a bishop in South London I am concerned about the people who have to endure the noise from the flight path."

Speaking at a London press conference yesterday, Mr Kaufman said of the bishop: "I paid no attention to what he said. But from and emotion, I do not believe that in a serious hearing before a responsible member of the United States cabinet, it does much good to go along and preach a Monty Python sermon. I do not believe that kind of musical hall turn does any good at a serious hearing. I am happy to say that our opponents relied far more on froth than on fact."

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The Right Rev Hugh Montefiore (left) did not go out to wreck Concord; Lord Boyd-Carpenter (centre): "More useful... if he had devoted his time to spiritual matters"; Mr Kaufman (right): "I paid no attention to what he said."

Lord Boyd-Carpenter, who was Conservative MP for Kingston-upon-Thames for many years, said at a luncheon in London that he was sorry that the bishop should "think it appropriate to travel to America to try to wreck the commercial future of the finest product of the British aircraft industry".

He said in his diocese there is no to be done which could fully engage even his boundless faith. "Is there not religious awe?" he asked. "Is there not a sense of the sacred? Are there not humble homes to be visited and prayed in? Are there no hard-pressed clergy who look for help to their Father-in-God? Would it not have been more useful, not to say more appropriate, if he had devoted his time to spiritual matters rather than to the temporal sort of sky-piloting for which I grant licences?"

Answering Lord Boyd-Carpenter's comments, the bishop said: "I didn't go to America at my own expense. I went out to wreck Concord. I went out because it will cause great distress to people's lives. It is as loud as the old jets. Machines should be for people, and not people for machines."

He had heard the noise made by Concord. It sounded from far off like a terrible thunder clap. The bishop said Mr Kaufman's comments could not be taken seriously. Every statement he had made in Washington had been supported by evidence in a written submission.

Continued on page 2, col 2



Feeding sparrows in the sunshine in St James's Park, London.

## Threat of a national steel strike deepens

By Paul Routledge  
Labour Editor

The threat of a national steel strike deepened last night as talks on compromise cuts in the wage bill dragged on without any sign of success. Left-wing leaders in the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation were confidently predicting a heavy majority in favour of a strike ultimatum emerging at a meeting of the union's executive this morning. One count put the majority at 17 to 4 for industrial action.

The worsening crisis in the industry came after a day of fruitless talks during which the British Steel Corporation refused to retreat from its proposals for cutting the wage bill by £170m this year, and asked the trade unions to accept tens of thousands of redundancies.

An emergency session of the executive of the confederation, the largest union in the industry, was held last night during a break in the negotiations, but it was adjourned until 10 am

today to allow the union leaders more time to seek a compromise with the BSC.

The prospects of a settlement seemed poor. After 1,000 strikers at Port Talbot, South Wales, decided at a mass meeting yesterday to stay on strike until later today, BSC remained its threat to close down the plant from 2 pm, laying off 9,000 production workers.

The mood of confederation executive members was one of frustration and anger, particularly among the lay members who have been in London throughout the week, and who are under intense shopfloor pressure to provide a lead, either for a strike or a compromise.

As the deadline for British Steel's threat to suspend the guaranteed working week from tomorrow draws closer, so does the likelihood of more unofficial strikes on the lines of the Port Talbot stoppage. Feeling is understood to be running particularly high in Scotland and on Teesside.

Continued on page 2, col 2

## Army drawn into Beirut battle

Beirut, Jan 9.—The heaviest fighting of the nine-month-old Lebanese civil war raged fiercely overnight and all day today in the south-eastern suburbs of Beirut.

Thousands of Palestinian guerrillas and their leftist Lebanese allies were locked in house-to-house fighting, with right-wing Lebanese Christians for the control of the approach roads to the Palestinian refugee camp of Tel Zaatar.

Heavy rocket and mortar duels and the street fighting caused a casualty toll of 74 dead and 152 wounded from midnight last night to this evening, according to preliminary official reports.

A security forces spokesman said there was a large number of dead and wounded around Tel Zaatar who could not be reached by doctors because of the fighting.

The Lebanese Army, which in general has avoided becoming involved, is beginning to take an active role in the fighting grows more serious.

The spokesman said an attack by 1,000 Palestinian guerrillas and Lebanese leftists to the Chiyah area of Beirut was repulsed by Christian Phalangists "aided by the Army".

He added that the internal security forces' headquarters in the heart of the city was also attacked by left-wing gunmen.

Large numbers of guerrillas were busy in both Christian and Muslim neighbourhoods digging trenches and erecting street barricades. The gunmen advised residents to seek shelter in basements and other safe places to avoid getting hurt.

A call by the Army for a ceasefire to go into effect at 5 am after the extremely heavy overnight fighting went unheeded by both sides.

There were demonstrations in various parts of Lebanon and in Beirut by people demanding bread and other provisions as supplies began running out as a result of the protracted crisis.

A newly formed organization, the "Relief International for Lebanon", formed by foreign residents in the war-ravaged country, appealed for urgent international help "for the tens of thousands of people in desperate need of the basic necessities of life".

The rival factions made conflicting claims on the outcome of the Tel Zaatar battle which spilled over into the neighbouring Christian suburbs.—AP.

Continued on page 2, col 2

## Cod war collision ends battle of wits

On-board HMS Leander, Jan 9.—The Royal Navy Frigate Leander and the Icelandic patrol boat Thor collided today with no further damage about a 50-minute battle of wits between the British trawler fleet east of Iceland.

Eight times they came within feet of each other before the stern of the Thor collided with the bow of the Leander while attempting to force the frigate off course.

Captain John Tait, Leander's commander, who is also commander of the British task force protecting the trawlers, said: "We were steady but he kept clear several times but he made straight for the fishing boats."

On its third attempt to force the Leander off course, the two ships came so close that the

frigate's bow hung over the patrol vessel's flight deck, which was crowded by seven Icelandic crewmen.

As he veered into the Leander, Captain Tait's trawler could be seen leaning out of his bridge roaring with laughter. At one stage of the manoeuvres, watched by about a dozen trawlers, he shouted "I'm a fisherman, I'm a fisherman."

"Anybody want to come aboard for tea?" Captain Tait roared back. "No, thank you. I prefer coffee."

The interchange took some of the tension out of the encounter, in which both vessels alternately forced each other back, with the Leander succeeding in keeping itself between the Thor and the trawlers.

A few miles away, another British frigate, the Bacchante, was holding off the Icelandic patrol boat Agor, while astern of the Leander a third frigate, the Naiad, was stopping the patrol boat Tor from breaking through to the trawler fleet.

London: A Defence Ministry statement said: "After a series of manoeuvres at speeds of up to 20 knots... Thor suddenly altered course to port and hit Leander's starboard bow."

Thor's damage is to the stern of the flight deck support. Leander's bow is also slightly damaged—two small dents and chipped dents on the starboard bow. No casualties have been reported.

Reykjavik: The Icelandic coast guard said the Leander rammed the Thor and quoted Captain Hallardsson as saying: "It looks as if the Leander is going to kill us."

Mediation expected, page 3

## Attitudes garden in Ulster

From Christopher Walker, Belfast

Senior members of the Cabinet are resigned to facing concerted opposition from both political extremes to Ulster when the Government announces its Commons on Monday that it is rejecting the Protestant majority Northern Ireland Convention report because it effectively rules out sharing power with the Roman Catholic minority.

There were indications yesterday that political attitudes in Ulster were hardening still further particularly among loyalists who were holding private talks at an hotel on the shores of Lough Erne, in Co Fermanagh.

Confrontation between the dominant United Ulster Unionist Coalition and the Government seems inevitable, although there remains doubt about how far the loyalists will be prepared to take their threats of action.

The Fermanagh conference was attended by more than 150 Protestant leaders, including all the members of the UUC's Convention party, Westminster MPs, and some prominent local government councillors. Senior paramilitary figures, including members of the Ulster Defence Association, were also known to be present.

Continued on page 2, col 4

## Foreigners not invited to Chou's funeral

Peking, Jan 9.—China announced tonight that it would not be inviting foreign leaders to the funeral of Mr Chou En-lai, who died of cancer yesterday after a long illness.

The tributes to Mr Chou will last five days but the final rites will be witnessed only by his colleagues.

Within hours of the announcement of the 78-year-old Prime Minister's death, some embassies were urged the Chinese to open the funeral to the outside world and make it an occasion befitting his international standing.

Japan approached the protocol department and the president of another Asian country asked to be allowed to come to Peking, informed sources said. A western government head also expressed a wish to attend.

But a statement from the committee organizing the funeral—headed by Chairman Mao Tse-tung—said that following local custom foreigners would not be invited.

The Government appeared slightly surprised and embarrassed by the outpourings of international sympathy over Mr Chou's death. Tonight's statement expressed deep gratitude to countries which wanted to join the mourning.

The only part of the lengthy ceremony which foreigners will attend will be to express condolences to relatives at the

Workers' Cultural Palace in the ancient Forbidden City on Monday.

Mr Chou's body will lie in state here this weekend. Restaurants, shops and schools all opened. Children skated cheerfully on frozen lakes. But if the outward reaction was cool by western standards, there was no doubt about the warmth of the tribute in the official obituary.

It said Mr Chou, the architect of the Communist Party, devoted his entire from page to the obituary and it was read over on Peking television tonight.—Reuters.

More tributes Mr Wilson sent his condolences to China and at the same time issued a statement expressing his respect for one of the principal architects of modern China. In Cairo, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Conservative Party leader, described Mr Chou's death "a great loss".

In a telegram to the Chinese Government, the Soviet Government asked that its "compassion" be communicated to Mr Chou's family. Pranda had reported the death despite the news coming after normal press time.

The extraordinary Chou, page 12; Leading article, page 13

## Heavy gains on stock markets

Share prices rose sharply on the Stock Exchange yesterday. Some Government stock gained more than 12 after the announcement of two new "tap" issues. The "tap" were interpreted as a sign that the Treasury wishes to see interest rates fall further in coming weeks. The rise in Government bonds led to a strong, late advance in ordinary share prices. The FT index rose 11.1 to 401.6. Page 17

## Metro strike ends

Madrid's Metro workers voted last night to end their four-day strike, which has crippled the Spanish capital. The underground railwaymen stipulated, however, that the strike would begin again in 10 days if their demands for a new contract were not met. Earlier report, page 3

## BBC cuts of £5.5m

The BBC yesterday announced measures to save £5.5m, the first instalment of planned savings of £10m between now and April 1977. Sir Charles Curran, the director general, said there could be no guarantee that redundancies would be avoided. Page 2

## Threat of AUEW split

The prospect of a breakaway from the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers by its consequential section has been increased by the election as the section's general secretary of Mr John Baldwin, who is sceptical of the value of remaining with the AUEW. Page 2

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Jon Trevel on living in the teeth of a gale; George Hutchinson says Mr Jenkins cannot afford any more Home Office accidents  
Paul Gurney on why American soccer is an upper-class game; Saturday Review  
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Leftists: On Northern Ireland from Sir Gilbert London: on inheritance of tenant farms from Mr John Gort, MP

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## Minister on 'discontent' over some schools

Mr Mulley, Secretary of State for Education and Science, said that it was time to reaffirm the belief that schoolchildren must have a basic training in reading, writing and arithmetic. There was a growing chorus of discontent from parents, teachers and employers about the education provided in a minority of schools. Page 3

## Italian Socialist stand

The leader of the Italian Socialist Party has demanded that the Communists should be associated in some way with the ruling majority when a new Government is formed—servants of the Socialist will not take part in it. They were willing to negotiate. Page 4

## Neutral OAU line likely

As African leaders began arriving in Addis Ababa for today's crucial Organization of African Unity summit on Angola, it appeared increasingly likely that fear of wrecking the organization will prevent solo recognition of any single faction in the conflict. Page 4

Miners' dispute: Derbyshire miners call off over time ban to allow talks with coal board over closure of Loughtholme colliery. Page 2

Court case: Refunds to 40,000 disappointed holidaymakers will begin soon. Page 3

Washington: Thirteen lining up as candidates for Democratic nomination as preparations are made for first primaries. Page 4

Buenos Aires: Right wing terrorists kidnap 17 people and murder three in new burst of Argentine lawlessness. Page 4

national match at Murrayfield  
Football: Geoffrey Green discusses the prospects of leading first division clubs; Racing: Prospects for three weekend meetings  
Business News, pages 17-21  
Personal Investment and Finance  
Margaret Stowe discusses an alternative to bankruptcy; Adrienne Cleland looks at the alt market; John Drummond on the problems of policyholders and insurance companies after the storms

## Still the greatest French romantic... ever

The world-famous range of perfumes complemented by Eau de Toilette, Eau de Cologne, Parfum de Toilette, Talc, Talc Glacé, Aftershave, Dusting Powder, Luxury Soap, Bath Oil, etc.

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**Je Reviens**

**WORTH**

PARIS



## HOME NEWS

## AUEW faces threat of a breakaway by constructional section

By Christopher Thomas  
Labour Staff

Britain's second largest union, the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, faces the serious prospect of a breakaway by its constructional section, which has 30,000 members.

The possibility increased with the announcement yesterday of the election of Mr. John Baldwin, a moderate, who is known to be sceptical about remaining within the AUEW. He defeated Mr. Leonard Spackman, a London member of the union and a Communist Party, by 4,310 votes to 3,516 in a 32 per cent poll.

The union meets next month in an attempt to bridge differences between its four sections and to make progress towards a joint rule book. But Mr. Baldwin said last night that the possibility of a breakaway by his section was now "at least 50:50. We do not feel we have sufficient say within the engineering union."

"There is a real chance of the break-up of the four sections unless we can make progress on unification. I know there is resentment at the domination of the engineering section over the others. There is a possibility that we will seek amalgamation with a union more closely allied to the construction industry."

The previous general secre-

tary of the constructional section was Mr. Eddie Marsden, a Communist, who died last July. Mr. Baldwin's victory takes away the left-wing majority on its executive, leaving it split about equally between the left and the moderates.

The constructional section, the smallest of the four, used to be the Constructional Engineering Union until it joined with the AUEW six years ago after a national ballot of members.

Mr. Baldwin said that other big unions had recently offered his section the prospect of amalgamation, but he preferred not to name them. However, the Union of Construction, Allied Trades and Technicians and the Transport and General Workers' Union are known to be interested.

"We are afraid of losing our identity within the AUEW," Mr. Baldwin said. "We do not have a big enough say, bearing in mind our status in the construction industry. Our influence in the industry is high but we seem to be losing out."

He believed the main unions should unite to a single union. He said that unless he received some firm assurances from the AUEW he would be tempted to bail his members to withdraw and try to unite with somebody else or even to reestablish the section as an independent union.

## Miners call off overtime ban but issue a warning

From Our Correspondent  
Oxfordshire

The overtime ban by Derbyshire's 12,000 miners was called off yesterday, but with a warning that there might be a national ban if talks with the National Coal Board on the closure of Langwith colliery break down.

Derbyshire area council of the National Union of Mineworkers decided unanimously to suspend the overtime ban so that talks could take place with the coal board about the future of Langwith colliery.

After the meeting Mr. Peter Hestfield, area secretary, said: "In view of the national executive decision to call for national talks with the coal board we have decided that the ban will be suspended immediately. But if the meeting to discuss the coal board's proposals goes against us, we shall fall into line with the proposed national overtime ban."

"The date of January 22 for a meeting at national level has been suggested, but I sincerely hope it will be considered more urgent than that, and there will be a meeting as soon as possible. The board must reconsider its attitude to the non-development of 2,500,000 tons of coal which is still at Langwith."

The coal board says that conditions for mining the coal at Langwith would be intolerable. It intends to close the colliery and transfer its 900 miners.

## Tory group criticizes plan to enlarge farm output

By Our Agricultural  
Correspondent

The Government's plan to enlarge farm output was strongly criticized by the Select Committee of Conservatives yesterday. According to Mr. Richard Body, Conservative MP for Holland and Boston and a vice-president of the group, "The argument presupposes that all imports are bad and that all exports are good."

Mr. Body, who is also a farmer, says in a pamphlet published yesterday that the White Paper, *Food From Our Own Resources*, is a prescription for the fossilization of agriculture.

Mr. Peart, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, had proposed food output growth of 21 per cent a year without mentioning the cost that would be incurred in his calculation proved mistaken.

"The automatic Mr. Peart has allies among the doomsters," Mr. Body writes.

Recalling that a recent article in *The Times* had said that future availability of imported food was doubtful, Mr. Body calls for an end to protection of British agriculture on the ground that such a policy encourages excessive production of food.

One of the main objections to protection of agriculture was that it encouraged people to take advantage of financial encouragement by the state to farm as a hobby. "If they get out of the way the consumer would pay the same price for food as the ordinary citizen, the only people who would be assured of a fair market price," he says.

Mr. Bishop, Minister of State at the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, said yesterday that he doubted that farmers and consumers would welcome Mr. Body's case.

No way to Feed a Nation (Selsdon Group, 32 Smith Square, London, SW1, 5PP).

## Scottish Labour MPs threaten action to disown members of the 'rebel' group

Continued from page 1

efforts to bring down the Government.

"I shall return to Parliament next week and act as though I were on the roll of the Parliamentary Labour Party. I will continue to act that way in the lobby until the Chief Whip instructs me to do otherwise."

Our Political Correspondent writes: Scottish Labour MPs are angry with Mr. Sillars and other members of the 'rebel' group. The Government's White Paper proposals and seeking to establish a second Labour Party in Scotland. When the Commons recess on Monday, there will be a concerted move to disown them.

Mr. William Hamilton, MP for Central, said last night: "Mr. Sillars must be dealt with forthwith. He will be given a clear indication next week that either he toes the line or he gets out, or we kick him out."

Mr. Hamilton and other Labour backbenchers argue that Mr. Sillars's movement threatens not only the standing of the Labour Party in Scotland but also the prospects of its regaining a majority in the United Kingdom as a whole at the next general election. Some Labour MPs have already written off Mr. Sillars as a likely Scottish Nationalist convert.

The volume of dissent in the Labour Party about possible separation from the rest of the United Kingdom is having an effect on the Commons debate next week but also on the Conservatives in Scotland. To the surprise of the MPs concerned, messages are being received from former Labour supporters urging that the Conservative Party, in the Commons debate next week, should firmly support the proposition that although there should be a devolution of powers to Scotland, the correct position for Scotland should be to keep on contributing fully to the life of the United Kingdom while asserting a greater measure of control over domestic affairs.

## Judge wants legal check on benefits

By Marcel Berlins  
Legal Correspondent

Stronger legal and judicial controls and safeguards were necessary to ensure that the system of supplementary benefits was not abused, a judge said yesterday for their first meeting of 1976. They are (left to right) the table: General Richard Ward, Chief of Personnel and Logistics; Field Marshal Michael Carver, Chief of the Defence Council; Mr. William Rodgers, Minister of State for Defence; Mr. Roy Mason, Secretary of State for Defence; Sir Michael Carty, Permanent Under-Secretary of State; Mr. E. C. Cornford, Chief Executive, Procurement Executive; Mr. J. F. Mayne, Private Secretary to the Secretary of State for Defence; Dr. M. J. Harter, Joint

Protestant groups in Scotland sent explosives to Ulster by post, a judge said yesterday. The High Court in Glasgow was giving evidence in the trial of John Kerr, aged 55, Mrs. Betty Watson, aged 55, and her daughter, Mrs. Alison Wilson, aged 23.

The three deny that on September 16 at Mrs. Wilson's home at Dalmarloch Road, Glasgow, they carried out an act of terrorism by sending 16 sticks of explosives with intent to endanger life or cause damage to property.

They deny that a parcel sent to the sub-post office contained gelignite wrapped in polythene bags, newspapers and cooking foil. The box was known as a safe house in Northern Ireland.

Mr. Stewart said the parcel at the sub-post office contained gelignite wrapped in polythene bags, newspapers and cooking foil. The box was known as a safe house in Northern Ireland.

Mr. Stewart said that on his instructions an Ayrshire explosives factory made up an identical parcel containing 16 dummy sticks. It was posted to the address of the original parcel, that of Mr. Norman Brown, High Causeway, Highfield Estate, Belfast. The RUC were told of the plot, but he did not know what happened to the parcel.

Mr. Stewart said that when Mr. Kerr was searched at a police station, officers found a whisky label on which was written an address in Donegal Road, Belfast, and a message: "Parcel this afternoon or Monday morning first thing."

Cross-examined by Mr. Herbert Kerrigan, for the defence of Mr. Kerr, Mr. Stewart said that he had come to their attention because he collected cash for the UDA, the UVF and the Loyalist Prisoners Aid. He was also a member of Apprentice Boys of Derry.

Mr. Stewart agreed there were police houses in Glasgow where Mr. Kerr, Mr. Stewart and the Loyalist Prisoners Aid were freely available.

The trial continues on Monday.

## Scots groups sent explosives to Ulster by post, police say

Continued from page 1

As well as confirming their support and solidarity for the Provisional IRA, the Loyalist delegates discussed a report of his meeting in London on Thursday with Mr. Rees, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland. A brief statement issued after the Cabinet meeting said that the Irish Government had expressed itself to be satisfied with the progress of security cooperation.

During the meeting the measures that had been discussed by the two governments were reviewed. It is understood that they will not include a "hot line" between the armies of the two countries.

In Northern Ireland members of the public, both Protestant and Roman Catholic, continued to demonstrate their rejection of the sectarian violence which has claimed 18 lives this year.

In Lurgan several thousand workers paraded through the streets in silent protest at what the organizers termed "the slaughter of our people."

Letters, page 13

## 'Loyalist' leaders in secret talks as confrontation looms

Continued from page 1

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Letters, page 13

## State papers messenger is demoted

By George Clark  
Political Correspondent

The circumstances in which a Foreign Office messenger has been demoted and had his wages reduced by £10 a week after an incident at the country home of Mr. Callaghan, the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary, are to be raised in the House of Commons by Conservative backbenchers.

The messenger, Mr. Bert Palmer, aged 61, has been employed on outside duties for 16 years, and was in charge of Foreign Office documents delivered last Saturday to Mr. Callaghan's farmhouse at Uckfield, Sussex. Under the usual routine, he was taken from London to Uckfield in a chauffeur-driven car.

Mr. Palmer has said that he was given a "terrible telling off" by the Foreign Secretary after he had walked into the front room of the farmhouse without permission.

When Mr. Palmer reported to the Foreign Office this week, he says, he was given a severe reprimand by a senior official and told he would be restricted to inside messenger work.

Mr. Palmer's reprimand did not result from any complaint by Mr. Callaghan. An official said that normal security checks were in operation at the farmhouse. The messenger arrived in an official car and was admitted to the house with the agreement of Sussex police officers who were on protection duties.

Mr. Marcus Kimball, Conservative MP for Gainsborough, said last night that he would ask Mr. Callaghan in the Commons next week whether he was satisfied with arrangements for moving papers from London to him and other Foreign Office ministers when at their homes.

Mr. Kimball said it was very disturbing that important state papers should be transported by elderly people who were liable to suffer from long journeys and whose conduct was subsequently alleged to be unsatisfactory.

This reminds me of the incident several years ago when the late Mr. Richard Crossman, then a minister, left state papers lying around in a restaurant, Mr. Kimball said.

## Uhlmann misses chess chance to improve lead

From Harry Golombek  
Chess Correspondent

Uhlmann missed an opportunity of increasing his lead in the Chess Federation of Great Britain tournament yesterday when he let off Sigurdsson with a draw.

In the other important game for the lead in round 10, Bronstein badly mishandled the opening against Miles, and on adjournment he was three pawns down and it looked an easy win for the Birmingham player.

So Bronstein has been replaced as Uhlmann's nearest rival by the Czechoslovak grandmaster, Bogi. He won a pawn against Kaplan and had little difficulty in forcing the win shortly before the adjournment. Korolov won a rook and two pawns for Bellin's queen, and the English player lost by exceeding the time limit with six moves still to be made.

Scene: Uhlmann 7, Bronstein 6, Miles 5, Korolov 4, Bogi 3, Kaplan 2, Bellin 1, Sigurdsson 0. Uhlmann and Sigurdsson 0, Bronstein 1, Miles 2, Korolov 3, Bogi 4, Kaplan 5, Bellin 6, Sigurdsson 7.

Letters, page 13

## Cutbacks of £5½m are announced by BBC

By Kenneth Gooling

The first details of cuts in capital expenditure by the BBC aimed at saving £10m between now and April 1977, when a licence fee increase will be applied for, were given by the corporation yesterday.

They include the deferment of a new studio in Manchester for the BBC Symphony Orchestra, the postponement of the move of Radio Leeds to new premises, and the abandonment of the refurbishing of a studio in London.

A message to staff, Sir Charles Carran, the director general, reaffirms the BBC's statement last month that £10m must be taken out of the budget by April 1977.

"We wish to do this," he says, "without damaging the general structure of the service, that is, without abandoning the two-channel television operation, the present four radio networks, local radio or the existing regional services."

As a first step the board has decided that a sum of £5.5m must be saved between now and the end of March 1977, and would be considering next month how, if necessary, further savings of £4.5m could be achieved.

The cuts will naturally be concerned, Sir Charles wrote, "as to how they will be affected by these proposals. While I cannot guarantee that the levels will not be affected, the cuts in this instance is for savings that can be made relatively quickly."

"There are basically only three ways in which savings can be made in the short term: by cutting capital expenditure, by cutting back on operating developments, and by reduction in programme budgets."

Detailed plans are being worked out and discussed with the unions for the immediate saving of £5.5m mentioned above. Details will be given to staff by directors and regional controllers.

Of £500,000 of the £5.5m is expected to come from savings in capital development. The corporation is looking carefully at the ultra-high frequency transmitted programme, largely affecting viewers in Wales and Scotland, as it affects the expansion of colour television coverage, which may be slowed down.

Programme heads are working out ways of saving a further £500,000. This was emphasized yesterday that at this stage it will not mean any reduction in hours. Special projects will be "slimmed down" and programmes will bear the brunt of cuts as much as the operational side.

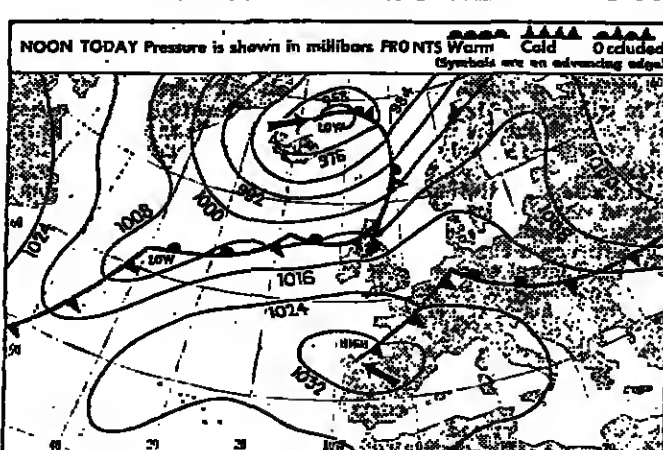
Although the BBC has said that it underestimated the increase in colour television licences in the last financial year, it is evident from figures now in the public domain that there was an increase of more than a million over the whole of last year, and that means another £6m in income, taking into account the increase in licence fees from £12 to £18 last April.

## Trawler charges adjourned

Charges over the Fleetwood trawler London Town, which was accused of fishing in territorial waters of the Irish Republic off Donegal, were adjourned yesterday at Sranor Court to a special sitting of Letterkenny Court today.

Mr. Jack Kelly, the skipper, said the charges were outside the jurisdiction of the court and denied fishing in Irish waters. The London Town was escorted into a Donegal harbour on Thursday.

## Weather forecast and recordings



Today		Tomorrow	
Sun rises: 8.4 am	Sun sets: 4.12 pm	Sun rises: 8.3 am	Sun sets: 4.14 pm
Moon sets: 1.03 am	Moon rises: 11.23 am	Moon sets: 2.17 am	Moon rises: 11.53 am
Full moon: January 17, 7.33 am			
Lighting up: 4.42 pm to 7.33 am			
High water: London Bridge, 7.15 am, 5.30 pm (18.9 ft); 9.2 pm, 5.8 pm (19.1 ft); Avonmouth, 12.49 am, 9.8 am (12.0 ft); 1.25 pm, 9.7 pm (12.1 ft); Dover, 5.31 am, 5.40 am (17.6 ft); 6.22 pm, 5.21 pm (17.0 ft); Hull, 1.3 pm, 5.6 pm (18.4 ft); Liverpool, 9.45 am, 8.2 pm (23.2 ft); 6.13 pm, 7.2 pm (23.6 ft).			

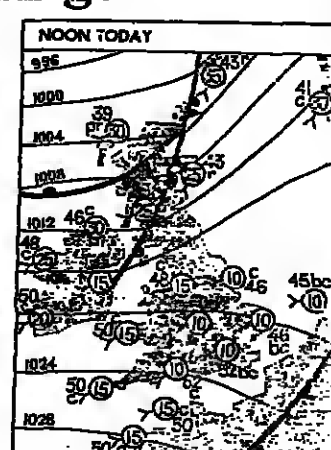
Troughs of low pressure will move across N districts of the British Isles.

Forecast for 6 am to midnight: London, SE England, East Anglia: Rain in places at first, then mainly dry with bright intervals; developing wind SW, moderate; max temp 10° or 11° C (50° to 52° F).

Channel Islands, Central S. SW England, S Wales: Mostly dry, bright intervals; wind SW, moderate or fresh; max temp 10° or 11° C (50° to 52° F).

Midlands, E. Central, NE England: Mostly dry, rather cloudy, perhaps rain late; wind SW, moderate; max temp 9° C (48° F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Monday: England and Wales will have occasional rain and temperatures moderate.



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Middle East tour, page 4



## HOME NEWS

## Growing chorus of discontent in education at minority of schools, Mr Mulley says

on Tim Devlin  
Education Correspondent

Schoolchildren must have a basic training in reading, arithmetic and writing. It was this, said Mr Mulley, that the Secretary of State for Education and Science, said at a North of England Education Conference at Lancaster University yesterday.

"There is a growing chorus of discontent from parents, teachers and employers about the education system," he said. "People are worried by some of the stories about education at the headlines."

Mr Tyndale, the North of England Education Conference, said that, 20 years ago, the education system was a success. The list is too long for me to repeat.

"Frankly, I have no magic remedies, and I do not believe it is possible to find any. Most children and students are using the time spent in education to much better purpose than their predecessors. In schools and colleges that I visit my main impression is of lively young people eager to be taught well, of skilled and sympathetic teachers, and of numerous and imaginative resources of other kinds."

Later, answering questions from the floor, he referred indirectly to a demonstration on Thursday by about 200 girls at Keaton Park comprehensive school, Newcastle upon Tyne, against an announcement by the headmaster that girls who misbehaved would in future, like boys, be subject to the strap.

That, he said, seemed to have got far more coverage in some of the papers than the deliberations of the Lancaster conference.

At a press conference after his speech, he said: "I am against any sort of violent form of punishment. We do not have a policy as a department, except that we are against any excessive use of corporal punishment." But his powers to intervene were limited.

In his speech Mr Mulley said he would be announcing shortly the constitution of the consultative committee of the Association of Schools and Colleges.



Mr Mulley: "No magic remedies"

ment of Performance Unit which his department had set up. "While the unit will, I feel sure, demonstrate what we all feel, that over-published short-cuts are not typical of the system in general, I trust it will be of some assistance in our attempts to achieve even higher standards," he said.

He fully endorsed his parliamentary colleague, Mr Eric Heffer, when he had said: "Many of us are concerned about the idea now being floated that children should not have to learn the three Rs. Many of us believe that the three Rs are the most important part of education. It is not a reactionary concept that working-class children should be taught the three Rs."

Mr Mulley said: "There are times when we should boldly reaffirm our beliefs in the learning of these basic skills. The acquisition of them, not for their own sake but as instruments of work and pleasure, was at the centre of the education process."

Differences of opportunity and achievement were still too great between classes, regions and sexes, he added. It was vitally unsatisfactory that middle-class children, in proportion to their numbers, won five times as many places in universities as working-class children. Teachers must remove disincentives from children and build

on the experience and talents brought by children from working-class homes.

There was no difficulty in attracting the ablest students from colleges into the professions and public service, but "we must instil a deeper respect for careers in wealth-generating industries and commerce upon which our economic future depends. We have got to concentrate much more of our greatest talent as a nation on the brutal necessity of earning the nation's living. Unless we get such a revolutionary change in attitudes there will be no future," he said.

Parents blamed: Councillor Derek Webster, chairman of Newcastle upon Tyne education committee, said yesterday of the Keaton Park school demonstration: "One of the most appalling aspects of this was that some of the parents have deliberately encouraged the children" (the Press Association reports). Mr Webster, who said he had called for a full report, added: "They knew it was going to happen and went along to the school to watch. This was irresponsible behaviour of the worst kind."

The headmaster, Mr Henry Asker, defended the school's new ruling, saying it had resisted corporal punishment for girls for many years. He had changed the rules after pressure from women teachers upset by some girls' behaviour.

Mr John Alderson, regional organizer of the National Union of Teachers, said yesterday that some teachers had placed a ban on four girls at the school. He said: "I understand from our members that out of 1,370 pupils, there is a small core of disruptive children, including girls, and my members have decided today that four girls in this group are not to be taught by them until further notice."

"This is not because of the incidents yesterday, although they were involved, but because they have a long record of bad behaviour. There is a lack of support for the authority of the school from a very small group of parents, and we are giving legal advice about threats made by a parent to one of our members."

## Student is accused of murdering four people

Mark Andrew Rowntree, aged 19, a student, made a brief appearance at Keighley Magistrates' Court, West Yorkshire, yesterday, charged with four murders in eight days. Mr Rowntree, of Trannemere Park, Guiseley, near Leeds, was remanded in custody until January 16.

He is accused of the murder on New Year's Eve of Mrs Grace Adams, aged 85, who was found stabbed to death in her room at the Old Main Street, Bingley, West Yorkshire. He is also accused of murdering Stephen Anthony Wilson, aged 16, of Edensor Road, Keighley, on January 3. He is further charged with the murders of Barbara Booth, aged 24, Leeds model, and her son, Alan, aged three last Wednesday.

## Airline to pay for overbooking

By Our Air Correspondent

Passengers with tickets who are turned off a flight because it is overbooked are to be compensated by British Caledonian Airways, the main independent airline, under a scheme announced yesterday.

Those who wait more than four hours before being offered another flight will receive a sum equivalent to 5 per cent of the cost of the ticket for the journey. A sum of more than eight hours will bring 10 per cent compensation, and a wait of more than 24 hours 15 per cent. Meals and overnight accommodation where appropriate will be included in the last two categories.

BCAL made the offer independently of other airlines, who are to discuss the issue of compensation for overbooking soon with the Civil Aviation Authority. The CAA said on Thursday that they are in favour of a scheme for compensating overbooked passengers.

BCAL claimed yesterday that their scheme is the first of its kind outside the United States. During the last quarter of 1975 the airline had 41 overbooked passengers out of a total of 300,000. But during the same period they suffered from an average of 13 per cent of passengers who booked seats and failed to arrive for their flights. In one route, between London and Rome, the figure was up to 20 per cent.

In the forthcoming talks with the CAA on compensation, BCAL will ensure that there is on the agenda a proposal that passengers who are rebooked on another flight should pay a cancellation fee.

Mr Ian Ritchie, external affairs director for the airline, said yesterday: "All world airlines sometimes overbook. This is the inevitable consequence of the practice indulged in by some passengers of booking a seat on more than one flight for the same journey."

## WEST EUROPE

## Dr Luns may be asked to mediate after Nato ambassadors discuss worsening of the cod war

From David Cross  
Brussels, Jan 9

Nato ambassadors are to hold a special meeting of the Atlantic Council on Monday to discuss the worsening of cod war between Britain and Iceland.

The session, called at the request of Iceland, is expected to examine ways of defusing the dispute, which has already led to several collisions and near-misses between British and Icelandic ships. Yesterday, the Iceland Cabinet threatened to break off diplomatic relations with Britain if there were further incidents like this week's clash between the Royal Navy frigate Andromeda and the Icelandic gunboat Thor.

Iceland is expected to use Monday's meeting as an opportunity to win support from its Nato allies. So far, Nato members have refused to take sides and have shown more sympathy for the British viewpoint than during earlier cod wars.

The Iceland Government may also ask for some form of mediation, perhaps by Dr Josef Luns, the Nato Secretary-General, who played an important role in helping to resolve the last dispute between the two countries. The general offices of an acceptable third party would probably be offered by the British.

Indeed, Mr Callaghan, the Foreign Secretary, tentatively suggested such a line of action.

## Earthquake aid funds investigated

From Our Correspondent  
Rome, Jan 9

A man parliamentary delegation arrived in Sicily yesterday to find out why eight years after the disastrous earthquake here most of the 70,000 inhabitants are still living in bums.

The delegation is particularly interested to know what happened to the 350,000 lire (£250m) supposedly spent on rebuilding the nine destroyed villages and repairing other damage. Signor Quilieri, a Liberal member of the Chamber of Deputies and public works commission, has alleged that about 40 per cent of the sum has been diverted "into other people's pockets".

The plight of the earthquake victims was highlighted recently by a local priest, 700 Belice Valley, who wrote to MPs describing the conditions in which they live.

## Norway's new leader prepares his Cabinet

Oslo, Jan 9.—Mr Trygve Bratteli, the Norwegian Prime Minister, resigned today as expected and his close associate, Mr Odvar Nordli, was asked to form a new Labour Government.

Mr Bratteli, aged 66, who has been losing electoral support, stepped aside in the way for a new and younger generation of party politicians. The outgoing Prime Minister told a press conference that he had formally submitted his Government's resignation to King Olav at the weekly Cabinet meeting at the royal palace this morning.

Mr Nordli, aged 48, the Labour parliamentary leader, was later summoned to the palace and asked by the King to govern.

## Skiers warned of Alpine avalanche peril

Innsbruck, Jan 9.—Alpine experts warned today that two skiers were killed and several others had narrow escapes in snowdrifts this week.

The avalanche warning service in Austria said that dangerous patches of snow on many sheltered slopes, and told skiers to stick to marked pistes. A 21-year-old Austrian was swept to his death on Tuesday near Neukirchen, in Salzburg province, and a West German tourist was killed on Wednesday at Hochsölden, Tyrol.

## Footballers in bribes scandal fined for perjury

Essen, West Germany, Jan 9.—Eight West German First Division soccer players who admitted taking money to lose a crucial match five years ago today received fines of up to £19,950 marks (£2,000) after being convicted of perjury.

The past and present players of the club, Schalke, had sworn under oath that they did not accept a bribe to lose a match against Arminia Bielefeld on April 17, 1971. But two weeks ago they confessed to taking a total of DM140,000 (the about £25,000) from Bielefeld officials.

The two best known were Reinhold Libuda, a former international, who was fined DM19,950, and Hans-Jürgen Wittkamp, who now plays for Borussia Monchengladbach, who was fined DM19,000 (£1,800).

Proceedings will continue next week against the chairman of the club, its former treasurer and two other players who have pleaded not guilty.—Reuter.

## Strikers in Spain hold protest meetings

From Our Correspondent  
Madrid, Jan 9

The Spanish Cabinet met today as the underground railway workers' strike entered its fourth day and industrial action in other sectors gathered momentum. Tens of thousands of strikers from different industries, including some bank workers, held protest meetings.

Strikers from the Standard IIT electronics factory met in a church in the working-class district of Usera. Police surrounded the church but did not break up the meeting.

Representatives of the Metro strikers' state-run trade union were meeting officials of the company for the second time to seek a solution. The company has written warning letters to the strikers.

It was believed that an arbitrator, possibly the Madrid president of the transport union, would be called in to try to reach a compromise between the two sides. The strikers want the company to offer a guarantee against reprisals as well as to meet some of their basic demands for more money.

The Army opened a fourth underground line this afternoon. It was estimated that about 70 per cent of the service has now been restored. Civil Guards stationed in use and travelled in some carriages. The Metro strikers sent a telegram to the joint chiefs of staff asking the Army to withdraw and "not interfere in labour problems".

## 'Middle-class pressure on schools'

By Mark Jackson of The  
Times Educational Supplement

State schools were coming under increasing pressure to operate in the interests of middle-class children, it was said at the Inner London Education Authority's inquiry into the William Tyndale school yesterday.

Mr Terence Ellis, headmaster of the junior school, said that in a mixed social area such as Kingston, "certain pressures" were being brought on teachers, as a result of the increasing tendency of professional people to send their children to state schools.

"Perhaps because of the nature of their professions and

their contacts, they are able to make their views and needs felt out of all proportion to their numbers," he said. "Other parents are so busy trying to keep their heads above water that they have neither the time nor the means to organize in a similar way, and so their children's interests can go by the board."

He felt that his school must cater for children of all classes and races, and he did not like the feeling that he was being pushed in one way or another by any one group of parents.

Children of different social or, for that matter, racial groupings were ready to accept each other without prejudice if adults allowed them to do so. "But we

cannot ignore the fact that many parents hold entirely different views on this," he added.

The chairman of the inquiry, Mr Robin Auld, QC, said yesterday that Mr Ellis's predecessor, Mr Alan Head, who now runs a school outside London, had declined to give a written statement. A number of witnesses in recent days, including Mr Ellis, have made critical allegations about the situation at the school during Mr Head's tenure.

Mr Auld said that Mr Head had sent a written statement which he described as his "first and last intervention in this potentially grubby affair," but had been told that the statement could not be used if he was not willing to attend in person.

## One man cleared in 'lump' tax fraud trial

One of nine men in the dock in the alleged "lump" tax fraud case at the Central Criminal Court was acquitted yesterday, and discharged on the direction of the judge.

He is Patrick Joseph Enright, aged 33, contract manager of J. Murphy and Sons Ltd, the construction firm of Brooklands Close, Luton, Bedfordshire. He and eight other men had pleaded not guilty to conspiring to cheat and defraud the Inland Revenue.

Mr John Leonard, QC, for the prosecution, has alleged that the Inland Revenue was cheated of £1,408,356 over a 26-month period through the use of the "lump" system.

Judge King-Hamilton, QC, granted an application by Mr John Hazan, QC, for the defence of Mr Enright, that defence costs, to be assessed, should be allowed out of public funds.

The trial of the remaining men was adjourned until next Monday.

## Best year yet for police recruiting

There was a net increase of 4,389 in police manpower last year, the best year yet for recruitment, Lord Harris of Greenwich, Minister of State at the Home Office, said yesterday.

He added, however, that the increase was no reason for complacency; many forces were still substantially short of men.

## Sheep dip order

All sheep in Northamptonshire are to be dipped compulsorily from next Monday because of an increase in sheep scab, the Ministry of Agriculture said yesterday. About a thousand sheep in the county have been affected.

## Boy accused of murder

A schoolboy aged 13 was remanded in custody until next Tuesday by magistrates at Mansfield, Nottinghamshire, yesterday accused of the murder of a 19-year-old man, a supermarket assistant, at Mansfield Woodhouse, Nottinghamshire.

## Refunds to 40,000 disappointed Court Line holidaymakers will begin soon

By Patricia Tisdall

The long-awaited completion of a scheme to unlock remaining repayments in holidaymakers who lost money through the collapse of Court Line Holidays, both Court Line subsidiaries, was announced by the Association of British Travel Agents yesterday.

As a result, refunds to 40,000 disappointed holidaymakers whose claims have been held up by legal difficulties will begin by the end of this month. The scheme required all travel agents who have held payment for holidaymakers since the collapse of Court Line Holidays, 1974, to declare those holdings to an independent stakeholder. More than 1,500 travel agents have made the necessary declaration.

Urgent negotiations are taking place between ABTA and the other parties to ensure that a further 250 people who booked through travel agents who have failed since the Court Line collapse can also be repaid quickly.

Agreement has also been reached with the liquidator of Court Line, over a scheme to resolve a similar pipeline money situation. Travel agents will shortly be instructed on the necessary action, ABTA says.

The difficulties with Airfair are on a much smaller scale than those encountered with Court Line, or Halcyon. Only about 9,000 Airfair passengers

were affected by the collapse, and up to December 16, £500 of those had been repaid from the Government's Air Travel Reserve Fund.

The deadline for claims to be submitted to the liquidator, Pear, Marwick, Mitchell, is January 17, according to the conditions set by the fund agency. It is hoped that a further 2,000 people who booked through Court Line travel agents within the Court Line group, can also be repaid by the agency.

The scheme was devised to resolve the question of money held by retail travel agents for holidays paid for but not taken when Court Line failed. It has never been established legally whether that money belongs to the client or the liquidator. In view of that, it was necessary for such money to be "frozen" until its ownership had been established.

When the arrangements concerning the "pipeline" funds were first announced last November, it was hoped that most repayments could be completed by the end of February. But plans were delayed by slow responses from travel agents to the stakeholders, the accountants Thomson McLintock.

The procedure is that after the agents' money has been declared, the fund, now totalling £1.87m, will be wound up and the proceeds split between the liquidators and the agency. A number of agents who have still not filed declarations face

the threat of legal action by the liquidators under the retail code of conduct.

John Carter writes: Sir Kenneth, chairman of the agency, said yesterday that the bulk of repayments would be cleared by the end of March. He added: "We have been in a somewhat of a traumatic situation for the last three months over this pipeline money, because the liquidators, ABTA and myself were not of one mind at all on this. We had different interests to watch."

The main complication had been the legal interpretation of the relationship between the travel agents and the high street travel agents, who had between £3m and £4m in their tills when the companies collapsed.

Travel agents had the local sales and distribution rights, but unfortunately this did not meet the Companies Act provisions," he said. This was why his scheme had had to be discussed at such length.

Whereas the liquidators would have settled for 50 per cent, which I was certain they were going to get, we ended up with a much higher success rate than that. At times the Treasury and others thought I was being too optimistic."

He said that some 75,000 people had so far been paid by the agency for holidays they lost. In the next week or 10 days payments would begin to about 2,000 people a week.

## Trade unions 'have too much power'

About three quarters of the public, and nearly two thirds of trade union members agree with the view that "trade unions have too much power in Britain today," according to an opinion poll in the current issue of *The Economist*.

The poll, taken last October, was conducted by Market and Opinion Research International. In the magazine's leading article, British trade unions are described as "the museum piece of the international union movement."

Union leaders hardly know how to run their own unions and have neither the power nor, indeed, the aspiration to run anything else."

## Man's life 'saved by wallet'

By Clive Borrell

A bulky wallet and a thick pocket book probably saved the life of Mr Henderson Atkins when he was shot in the chest as he walked to his home in Forest Hill, south London, early yesterday.

Mr Atkins, aged 29, a railway worker, was so close to the gunman, in a white Austin 1100, that the shotgun pellets from the cartridge did not spread. Instead they tore a hole in his jacket and embedded in his wallet and pocket book. "He is very lucky to be alive. This was a senseless and apparently motiveless crime," a senior Yard officer said.

Mr Atkins, believed to be of

West Indian origin, was taken to Lewisham hospital suffering from shock and bruising.

A few minutes before that incident a man speaking with a West Indian accent, telephoned Scotland Yard to report that some white men in a white car stopped him and asked directions.

Almost immediately the car returned, he said, and the same driver and his passenger called to him: "We have got something for you." A shot was fired but the man escaped over a wall and hid in a thick garden hedge until the car drove away.

"We are anxious for his man to come forward. He may be able to help us in our inquiries," a senior Yard detective said.

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## WEST EUROPE

## Italian Socialists want Communist link

From Patricia Clough  
Rome, Jan 9

Signor Francesco de Martino, leader of the Italian Socialist Party, which brought down the Italian government on Wednesday, declared today that the party would not return to government unless the Communists were associated in some way with the ruling majority. However, he made it clear that the Socialists were willing to negotiate on what kind of "contribution" the Communists could provide.

The Socialist demands were "elastic," he told a press conference, adding: "It does not follow that the only other solution is party elections."

A quick compromise to reach a similar compromise was shown by the Social Democratic Party, which suddenly abandoned the rigid anti-Communist stand it has maintained for many years.

While excluding the possibility of any Communist participation in the government, the Social Democrats agreed that it was "right and appropriate" that there should be a constructive relationship with the Communists with a view to "convergence" on economic and social problems.

The biggest question mark was the position of the majority Government party, the Christian Democrats, deeply divided since their heavy losses in last June's regional and local elections. They are seeking this evening to debate the issue.

Meanwhile, Signor Ugo La Malfa, the Deputy Prime Minister and leader of the small Republican Party, announced in an interview that he would accept a post in any government again. Government was like trench warfare. "I cannot

face it any more... let others take my place," Signor La Malfa, who is 72, has held numerous ministerial posts over the past 30 years.

The possibility that the right-wing Liberal Party might be included in the next government majority was aired by Signor de Martino at his press conference. "If an agreement among all the constitutional parties to tackle the emergency situation is possible, I see no problem in the Liberals participating. We will not reject them."

Signor de Martino defended the Socialists' much criticized decision to resign down the Government, saying that it was inconceivable that a party should be required to give its support to an economic policy which it opposed.

Measures intended to help Italy out of the worst economic crisis since the Second World War were not only inadequate but dangerous, he said. A condition for the Socialists' return to government was a sharp change of economic policy with measures designed to encourage investments rather than to import goods at the expense of millions of lire.

A clear-cut agreement on the Communists' "contribution" to government was necessary to enable a future Administration to face the emergency situation in the country. He suggested prior consultations with the Communists on essential to important votes in Parliament.

Signor de Martino dismissed suggestions that such a solution would be a first step to a Communist pact with the Christian Democrats. "I am not in a position to accept a post in any government again. Government was like trench warfare. 'I cannot

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## O RSEAS

## Arkan summit likely to avoid commitment to any Angola fact for fear of wrecking OAU

From Nicholas Ford  
Addis Ababa, Jan 9

Africa head state and government began today for what might be one of the most important meetings of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) since it was founded 12 years ago.

At stake is the future of Angola, which is the first time to meet in a formal session, but also the organization itself.

There were increasing signs, however, that the leaders determined not to take any action which might irreparably damage the OAU. States were to discuss foreign policy on two separate occasions, and open commitment to any of the three warring factions.

The depth of the difficulties was demonstrated today when the OAU was presented with two separate applications from the rival groups requesting recognition as the sole legitimate government of Angola.

The first came from the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA), which has set itself up as the Government of Angola in the Republic of Angola in the People's Republic of Angola.

The second was submitted jointly by the Angolan National Liberation Front (FNLA) and the Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA), who have formed themselves into the government of the Popular Democratic Republic of Angola based in Huambo (formerly Nova Lusitania).

The MPLA, which now has the backing of 22 of the

organization's 46 member states, is still confident of winning overall recognition. But it seems increasingly likely that the OAU may avoid a commitment to either side for the time being.

As President Idi Amin of Uganda, said in his arrival: "Our top priority is to stop the bloodshed in Angola. It is not to deal with recognition right now." It was for the Angolans themselves to decide their own destiny.

President Kaunda of Zambia, who arrived earlier with Sir Seretse Khama, President of Botswana, also emphasized that the establishment of a "meaningful peace" was the main objective. He added that he would like to see a government of national unity formed there; an aim shared by UNITA but rejected by the MPLA.

President Nyerere of Tanzania, a leading supporter of the MPLA, carefully avoided making an open commitment to the Marxist-orientated movement. He said the head of state to discuss foreign policy in Angola which, without mentioning any names, he made came from South Africa.

Day's arrivals included several leaders who rarely turn up at such events, notably President Segor of Senegal and President Bokassa of the Central African Republic.

President Bokassa attacked the UN Security Council for dispatching UN troops to Angola to fight for the MPLA.

However, Cuban involvement was welcomed by Segor, who was a leading member of

the central committee of the Cuban Communist Party, who arrived on a visit to Ethiopia today. His denial caused considerable astonishment. Segor also declared that it was purely coincidental that he should be in Addis Ababa at the same time as the OAU summit.

When tomorrow's meeting goes under way the African leaders will have only one item on the agenda: "Consideration of the Angolan problem." But as one official wryly commented, the discussion might well be on "how to save the OAU from Angola."

Our Lusaka Correspondent writes: South African troops are being pulled out of Angola, it was learnt here today. Diplomatic sources said that the withdrawal of the military assistance by the United States and other countries that the political embarrassment of their presence far outweighed the advantages of their military assistance. The withdrawal is expected to be rapid.

Luanda, Jan 9.—MPLA forces have captured the town Soogo, about 40 miles north of Uige (Cunene) in southern Angola, on Monday, Major Juma, the MPLA military spokesman, said here today. He said the southern front, where the MPLA faces South African and UNITA forces, was stable.—Agence France-Press.

New York, Jan 9.—Dr Kurt Waldheim, Secretary-General of the United Nations, today called for an immediate end to all foreign intervention in Angola, Reuters.

There has been a new twist to the continuing dispute over the four islands—Stokoro, Shikotan, Kunashiri and Habomai, situated north-east of Hokkaido—were returned to Japan. Diplomatic sources indicated that Mr Gromyko had not come to Tokyo to make concessions over the dispute.

However, the Soviet Foreign Minister, who meets Mr Kishi Miyazawa, his Japanese counterpart, for talks tomorrow, is expected to question Japan's plans to sign a peace and friendship treaty with China. The Japanese have already criticized the proposed Sino-Japanese treaty officially, asserting that Peking's attempts to insert a specific "anti-hegemony clause" was aimed directly at the Soviet Union.

The meeting between the two foreign ministers tomorrow will be the fourth round of consultative ministerial talks since the two countries established diplomatic relations in 1956.

At the time, the Soviet Union agreed to return the two small islands of Habomai and Shikotan in settlement for a peace treaty, but in the ensuing two decades Moscow has steadfastly refused to give up the strategic larger islands of Stokoro and Kunashiri, maintaining that borders established at the end of the Second World War cannot be disputed.

The Soviet Union occupied the islands under the somewhat vague terms of the Yalta secret agreement of 1945. Although the Japanese have administered the islands since the end of the Second World War, they have no historic claim to the outlying chain, they steadfastly maintain that the four islands in dispute have always been Japanese territory.

They have consistently insisted that the dispute must be settled before Tokyo enters into a peace treaty with Moscow.

A Mr Gromyko flew into Tokyo today amid heavy security precautions, both left-wing and right-wing demonstrators demanded the return of the islands. The two foreign ministers are also expected to discuss plans to obviate friction arising over territorial rights and Japan's participation in the economic development of Siberia.

Mr Gromyko went out of her way to praise this agreement between Egypt and Israel as a "courageous and wise" move. But she said that it was only a "first step" towards a solution and that it was vital that momentum towards peace should be maintained by all involved.

Discussing a possible British role in expanded Geneva peace talks and suggesting that she could be one of the big power guarantors, Mrs Thatcher said that Britain was willing to play a role. "I imagine that when we get a final Middle East settlement we will not get on without some international guarantee of the frontiers, because otherwise every single state will be looking for a guarantee of its own right to exist in the area."

Throughout, Mrs Thatcher went out of her way to avoid any comment which might be construed as criticism of the British Government's policies. On an application to Syria, she said that her party's policy was to look at each case on its merits and to judge whether it would ultimately jeopardize a Middle East settlement.

Mr Kissinger said that he would say to a member of the PLO, He hoped, however, that the United States will veto any interfering with the terms of Resolutions 242 and 338, which provide the basis for the Geneva conference.

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**Postal and Weekend Shopping also on page 22**



If you encountered Picrot in Paris today, he would seem innocent enough, quite innocent. Besides, it would probably be in a children's workshop. To the Passage Jouffroy, for example, one of those high melancholic ironwork arcades off the boulevard Montparnasse, much frequented by Gérard de Nerval in the long autumn days before his suicide, there is a spacious old-fashioned boutique stuffed with cardboard theatres, packs of Petits Métamorphoses, Second Empire reproductions of a famous miniature boxers that play Chopin and Picrot, dozens of them.

There are, then, the dolls, Pierrot marionettes, Pierrot paperweights, Pierrot glove-puppets, Pierrot mannikins, Pierrot pipe-cleaners, and Pierrot paintings with flat cardboard limbs tucked under wide, black, fish-eyelets, and strangely blank on their reverse sides as if their souls had somehow been misplaced. All of them conform religiously to the same uniform: loose white smock and pantaloons, a black top hat and cap, and austere blanched face that stares back at you with weird intensity. As a distance, perched there in the arcade window, they look like a row of castall pigeons in mourning, close to you, there are somewhere between the cloven and purgatorial spirits.

"The childlike symbolism of  
 all this reminds me of those  
 tenderly familiar nursery-  
 rhymes that once  
 announced the terrors and  
 tragedies of popular history,  
 the 'fishoes of plague, the  
 cherry-stones of murder. Pier-  
 rot's sign is the metemorpho-  
 sis: everyone can become his  
 plague, the gentle distracted  
 oom of the seventeenth-cen-  
 tury air. "Au clair de la  
 lune", the creature of laughter  
 and sadness that we vaguely  
 associate with Paris and unre-  
 quited love, is a bitter-  
 quater leaf of the more

But who, in fact, was Pierrot, and why was he so unhappy? That is one of the questions of the profound studies of folk mythology, and the account that follows is merely one episode in what is perhaps an eternally recurring cycle in the human tragedy. It concerns Jean-Cascard Deburau, one of the legendary giants of the French Romantic Theatre, and a figure almost as mysterious as the White Clown whom he rescued from three centuries of despised obscurity in the travelling circuses and anonymous barlequinades of western Europe.

Deburau's origin at the beginning is impossible; but one may start with a birth. Deburau was born in Newkolln in 1796 and can correctly be called a Bohemian. The youngest member of a troupe of miring acrobats, he was sent to Paris at the crossing and recrossing a Continent convulsed by Napoleonic dreams. Deburau's father seems to have been an army drummer, a leeward Hussar, a dandy and a hully; his mother seems simply to have died young, exhausted by privations; neither had definite nationality. Deburau grew up in a small, faded, timid boy, with a long melancholy face, taciturn and withdrawn, a clumsy acrobat and consequently the comic butt of his

There was something dreamy and elusively ambivalent about the picture, legends, and calls of a visitor to the Sultan's palace in Constantinople were commanded to perform in an apparently deserted hall, particularly off stage, by a diaphanous curtain. For their finale, young Dehuray was required to scamper to the top of a human pyramid as he was surrounded by his brother's shoulders, he was magically rewarded by a glimpse beyond the softly undulating veil. He was then to deliver a secret audience, the entire Sultan's harem, a piddy vision of silks and jewels and curving flesh, forbidden to all mortal eyes, on pain of death. He was to be a legend and a

szén, overnauvencé, tell.

The Deburau family seemed to have lived in Paris towards 1314, but not too long until 1322 that the father's name first appears on a cast list of the new pantomime theatre, the Fucambules.

Young Deburau was employed as an huffoon, and as a hidden talent for elegant and sometimes savage mimicry. His emotional life remains hidden: the city archives show that at 21 he married a flower girl called Adelaide, for whom he thought dearer than the local *cousinière*, so we may perhaps assume that she was beautiful, and that he loved her. But three months later Adelaide died, in a tiny upper lodging at the Hotel Bouffiers.

A surviving inventory shows a bed with a straw mattress, a board dining table, a wash ewer, flaps, and a chest of drawers with a marble top.

After seven more years of penurious existence, Debureau perished, the family troupe began to disperse, and on his death the sense of a tyranny dissolved. For Debureau, then aged 30, it was a moment of late blossoming. At last he was able to sign his own contract with the French management, and he concluded a five-year agreement with a weekly salary of 35 francs, which was about four times what the musicians earned. He was permitted to play one named role only: that of Puck, the White Faced Clown. The tract was dated December 10, 1826.

Until this critical moment, in theatrical history, the stock part of Pierrot had been minor and ill-defined. Pierrot was loosely evolved from a number of Italian clown figures in the Italian Commedia dell'Arte of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. He was a figure of fun, rather than of distinction. Experts are inclined to suppose that Pierrot's ancestors have been traced most closely to Pedrolino, the honest peasant of Scapino in Scapula's plays; the wise peasant Bertoldo whose struggles with the Prince of Bologna were first written down by Guilelmo Croce in the 1570's; the good-natured buffoon of the fairground, known as Pagliaccio (*The Plasterer*, or *The Plasterer, Pailasse*, Old Straggle), or Giglioglio or Gilles of the Neapolitan commedia; and the French Fool Gros-Guillaume (*Little Fat Guy*) who played in front of Cardinal Richelieu with a face-plastered mask and a baker's flour-sack around his waist to retain the authenticity of his helly, one above and one below.

Indeed, the poor Pierrot who Delurran imitates, was so rich in ancestry that he was in effect perfectly illegitimate, a restless wanderer who sought his name in every city, a monomaniac who changed his name coming out from the disguised hierarchies of the traditional Commedia. He was quite simply the White Faced Clown, the enforcer, the Fool whose blanché—not with the white paint or the white saint or white robe, but with the comely nativity of flour and water. In this single recurrent detail lies the probable foundation of his dramatic character and his earliest symbolism. The White Clown, this place of the world seems to represent both the vilest humpink stupidity, and its opposite, an eternal peasant wisdom; he also stands for something of the natural fertility of the earth, as persistent and universal as wheat, which comes from his greed and his amorousness (consider the appetites of Chancer's Miller). These traits give Pierrot his peculiar psychology. It is especially true

By the eighteenth century the White Faced Clown had established himself in supporting roles in the theatre of the Minutemen in France, though the Italian Commedia itself had been banished from Paris in 1697 to protect the drama of Moliere. The White Clown was buffoon, valet, trickster and a typically unsuccessful rival of the more successful jester of the Columbian. But he was still a person of no discernible or morphous identity, known indiscriminately as Paillasse, error, Pedrolino, Pierre, or Gilles; and it is as "Gilles" that he appears in the famous portrait by Watteau of 1721, executed in Paris during the reign of Louis XV. The Theatre de la Comedie in 1721 was

[illegible]

began (or it began again) the summer newspaper article which the *Funambules* of 1823, heralding the certain danish humour, the great new Gilles or Pierrot the *Funambules* *Théâtre*, a *satane naïf et bouffon*, who was "nothing less than a count and a smart carriage" give him a Parisian vogue. Didier rented a box for a year, and wrote a pamphlet eulogizing for Deburau, called appropriately enough, *Le Nodior*, a dream of riches. Nodior's support was influential, and he was the favourite of the Arsenal and the intimate of Hugo and



### Watteau's pierrot, Gilles

Sainte-Beuve, his flights of fancy were closely observed by Parisian intellectuals. Deburau and the pantomime soon became the subject of a flood of writing. The sharp young critic, the *Journal des Débats*, Jules Janin, headed it with a racy but voluminous discourse on "Le Pantomime" (1822), proclaiming the classical theatre dead and wildly panegyrizing the Funambules. It was the complete and commissioned portraits of Deburau, and a fictionalized account of his early career, including a scene of his death, which had been held with Napoleon before Waterloo on the problem of French drama; and a law of French drama; and a management involving an impious townspoll said to have spread in the great clown's restless mind.

The topographical poets Gautier and Barres, like both in their juveniles, attended the Funambules so regularly that whenever Perrot carried curious ones of his ritual abductions of jam-tarts or pies, a salutation of pastries would fly down in great thins where they sat at their posts in the front-of-house box. Many other writers and *feuilletonistes* came to watch the pantomime, and those who have left records include Baudelaire, Champfleury, Alphonse Bos, and George Sand.

But Gautier's summary is perhaps the best: "The poem is the real *comédie humaine*; and even though it is only a summary of thousands of characters, Balzac is none the less complete for that. It embraces everything in four or five type-parts. Cassandra represents the family; Colombine the ideal woman or the ideal of the man; the flower of youth and beauty; Armin and snake-like body, his patchwork and his shower of spangles, represents Love, Wit, impulse, Audacity, and all that glitters in the view of the true; Pierrot, poor glimmering pale Pierrot, his glimmering pale Pierrot,

always hungry and always  
thirsty, is the antique style  
and the modern proletarian  
the pariah, the helpless and  
disinherited being, who wit-  
nesses the orgies and follies of  
his masters with mournful and  
resigned indifference.

At the Funambules, Deburau  
began to give a peculiar and  
startling authority to the Pier-  
rot, that *être passif et déses-  
péré* of the Pierrot tradition,  
the conditions under which he  
performed. The theatre, an erst-  
while circus of performing  
troups, Les Chiens Sauvages, was  
situated in the courtyard of the  
Palace of the Temple, at the heart  
of the popular revolutionary  
quarter of Paris, between the  
smacker of Les Halles and the  
theatre of the Folies Antiques. The  
circumstances which created along  
the iron balustrade of the  
paradis—the gods, with their  
famous four, sons, seats—were  
the roughest, roughest, most un-  
pleasant, and the least favourable.  
Mergal recalled that to use a  
Morgante in his presence was

But it was just this audience that Deburan dominated. He did it, said George Sand, simply by expressing their own feelings. Moreover he did it in total silence. For in Deburan's masterly hands, Pierrot had become an entirely silent

Originally, this silence had a political cause. Throughout its existence between 1816 and 1835, the theatre was prohibited from accepting a government licence to perform speaking plays, as these were regarded, in the circumstances, as subversive of the moral, law and order. Incorporated in confined, to be spectacular show of tight-rope walking, tumbling, quick-change, flying traps, dancing, acrobatics and popular music, based on the pantomime plots of the traditional harlequinade, there was a place for dialogue and a need for rather more visual and potent methods of exchanging ideas and emotions. The three specialities were *casécades*, highly complex, balletic figures

celebrated leaping *pied au cul*  
in which the tall, muscular  
Dehureau excelled in; the  
saw, startling and often perilous  
leaps up and down counter-  
weighted trepoids; and  
trics, bizarre instantaneous  
changes of scenery or stage-  
prop, so that a sheltering  
wardrobe might become a  
ravenous whale, or a coolie  
icecream—for Pierrot, of  
course—a spluttering Roman  
candle.

Moving calmly, almost sardonically, through this stylized, rather brutal form of so-called realism, the author maintains the same pale figure of Deburon, who gradually became the dominating genius of the theatre. The White Clown came into his own kingdom. The extraordinary, hygienic power of his eyes and derisive grin thrown into vivid relief, gave Deburon a dramatic instrument infinitely more subtle than Arlequin's mask and spangles, and a humanism more direct and honest. Moreover, the taciturn Bohemian revealed an astonishing inventiveness of gesture and grimace, an entire *argot* of wrinkles, sneers, rages, raptures and gruffs. The White Clown, the White King, the

George Sand wrote that long the seething halustrade almost sudidous concentration would appear, in row upon row of cupped chains and gaping mouths, "you really feel he is speaking, you could turn down all his *bans mots*, all his caustic repartee, all his eloquent apologies. When the machinists make a noise backstage, the public, frightened of hearing a single word of their terrorist, howl 'Silence in the wings', and he thanks them..."

Increasingly. Deburau in-  
billed Pierrot with his own  
personality: mocking, subtly  
malicious, charming and yet  
bitter, perhaps even menacing.  
He removed the huifon ruff of  
the Commedia clown, since it  
obscured his face in the lurid  
lamp-lights, and replaced Gil-  
bert's elegant hair with phan-

black skullcap which further offset the white of his flour, and which henceforth became an obligatory part of the Parisian Pierrot's costume. More and more he played over the heads of the other characters, directly to his audience, assuming their complicity in his schemes, nonchalant, powerfully reserved. In some pantomimes it was now he, and not the wretched Arlequin, who clasped Columbine's waist in the traditional flimsy of flaring orange Benzel flames.

[illegible]

Gauche recalled sadly: "With Denruoi the role of Pierrot passed and expanded to his own place and occupying his own nature till its origins were almost lost. Beneath the glamour and smuck of the illusory Bohemian, Pierrot took on masterful airs and inspired his colombs. He still remembered his kicks but he received none in return. Arlequin scarcely dared dust his shoulders with the bat and Cassandre thought twice before landing a clout. He kissed Columbine and wrapped his arms

from the Comic Opera. He directed the action just as if he were a tragedian, and arrived at a splendid climax of insolence and daring, which seemed to threaten even his own good genius. . . .

For one reason or another, Henri Rosta's recitatives were not entirely as splendid as his Deburau's weird by-play with the *paradis*. Much later he had formed his impressions into the brilliant first scene, entitled "*Pierrot*." "The audience would not have been entirely surprised if the borderland which he gave to *Pierrot* marked the beginning of a new era," he contained poison; or if, when he pretended to shaver him on stage, instead of merely making a *Can-can*, he suddenly making a touch of the razor, he had actually opened his throat from ear to ear. . . .

It happened, finally, in 1836, in the spring. Pierrot killed a man. Or rather, Deburau did.

The transcripts of the trial have survived, and from them we learn, among other things, the date and last time, the place, the stand-forth and speech to his public at the moment of acute humanitarian insight, heralded in the curious way by Watteau's unmasking of the White Clown, a century before. On the surface, the case was so straightforward that enough evidence was brought forward to accuse the assassin to show that Deburau and his new wife had been out walking one sunny April afternoon in the suburb of Bagnotat. They were lowered down a young apprentice, Nicholas Vietin, who was accounted best to bury the taunts and insults at themselves. "Eh, Pierrot! Eh Paillasses méchant paillasse, te voilà né à margot, tu putain!" pronounced from the street corners for some time, shouting obscenities at the tall clownish Deburau remained obstinately and ominously silent. Then at last, in a sudden access of rage, he turned, struck back, and hurled roses and crumpled single blow with his cane. The apprentice collapsed instantly on the cobble, with a deep wound over his left temple. He died later that evening. He was

17. Debarau, with his darrowish  
kissed face, and quick blue  
eyes, came pale and weeping  
to the witness box. He wore a  
black suit, and waistcoat. He  
gave his evidence with satis-  
fying frankness in a court-  
room packed with thespians and  
fashionable ladies.  
*President of the court:* "How  
did you find the holding of  
walking-stick?"  
*Accused:* "By the middle."  
"With which end of it did you  
strike?"  
"The small end."  
"What was your intention in  
making use of your cane?"  
"I repeat, I had no intention of  
striking at all."  
The evidence regard-  
ing the holding of the stick  
was not pursued. Other damag-  
ing evidence was turned adroit-

"Once you realized the victim had died from the blow sustained, did you not instantly exclaim, 'If he's dead, too bad for him. When I'm in a rage, I don't know myself'?"

"No Monsieur. That would not have been possible, since I did not know the young man was dead until the following day."

That non-sequitur was not picked up either.

pleased up either.

But perhaps the most telling piece of character evidence came quite by chance, towards the end of the case, in the statement of a defence witness, M. de la Roche. Obviously a man of some education, he had advised Monsieur Deburau to take my address, since I might be of use to him in the affair. For him it was that I was happy for him I had that I was sorry, since I could provide a true account of the facts. He repeated, 'Ah Monsieur ! it is too sorry for you, it is too sorry for you, but I am sorry too. For had you not been sorry, I would have continued to support those insults in silence. But seeing you there, I could not but insist upon the necessity of being insulted by those who were insulters. I am sorry, onlookers any more; and so the unhappy event took place before me.'

place." (Gasp in court.)  
That surely was the evidence of the White Clown himself, the evidence of centuries.  
The judge summed up the case favourably to Debureau. Young Vielin had been the aggressor; the provocation had been persistent and extreme; the death resulting from the blow was accidental. The jury returned a verdict of not guilty. Pierrot received an unconditional discharge and returned to the theatre.

Returned to the Funambules.  
 Yet Pierrrot's trial was full of  
 macabre resources that  
 escaped neither the *caraville*,  
 nor the literary world. Not  
 least was the revelation that  
 Viellin... had been a regular  
 follower of Deburau's from the  
*paradis*, and discussed his per-  
 formances passionately over  
 the supper-table with his  
 apprentice-master. As Alphonse  
 Karr wrote in Nerval's theatri-

"Before the fame brought Janin's book, Debureau was never have considered him insulted. He would have put a grimace at his mockers and made them laugh . . . but instead of that, Debureau, who has never been seen without a black face, Debureau went white-faced with anger, and with a stroke his case he killed a person, for that he had probably nearly killed on ten previous occasions with laughter. Debureau has become treacherous, while murder has become

Deburau himself can hardly avoid making the transfer between the real and the stage world. The theater historian Paul Hucouette has published what he claimed is a letter of Deburau at a time: "I can't touch a string anymore without burning my fingers," whatever I do the death will always become I tell me and my pain. Whenever I twirl a slalom on stage against the male believe assaults the spectators will think of Pliochristian and that will turn the laughter into ice."

Indeed occurred. Poor Pier-  
 had killed his fellow man,  
 brother, his child, his mock-  
 The White Colonel had en-  
 tered Death. Delahou  
 brought tragic presence  
 the role. The evolution of  
 Pier's dramatic character  
 is one more turn in the  
 folk memory, and gather-  
 ing one more layer of his-  
 torical symbolism. The olive  
 face, the mischievous  
 smile, now also contained a  
 deathly marble-face: white  
 with anger, white with  
 black with knowledge. Three  
 white cheeks, even white  
 pride. Pierrot had lost his  
 face.

the full consequences. They are a matter of textual, literary, and perhaps psychological history. The first saw the sudden development of an entire pantomime of domesticity with little more than a flourish. The second was more prophetic. The *Marche d'habit* (1842) in which Pier kills an old clothes merchant in order to enter society hall, gradually became Debureau's signature piece, but mainly analysed by Gautier as a literary gesture superimposed by Jean-Louis Barthe in Marcel Carné's celebration of the Pantomimes, or *Enfants du Paradis* (1960). The *Chand d'habit* was followed by *Pierrot*, Valet de Mort (1846), *Pierrot* (1849), and many similar pantomimes. Nerval wrote thoughtfully, and perhaps autobiographically, of Pierrot playing music in the halls of his fatherland produced "a strange reflection of the antique life in a classic era." *The Soul of Laughter* (1857) and George Sand's stage-struck son, Maurice, turned back to Pierro's pre-lapsarian days the first authoritative history of French Commedia dell'arte (1860).

But few of these high officials concerned Deburau then, and need concern us now. For it is simply one story of a White-Faced Clown, as it has happened, that has been the basis of Deburau's trial story that affected his popularity, was to misunderstand his position in the past, and to acquire, six months after the acquittal, Deburau signed a new 10-year contract with the company for 25 francs a month, plus 25 francs a night, a 10 per cent share of the profits, and a 6 per cent pension scheme. He continued to dominate the stage for another nine years, and then, at the age of 60, though increasingly racked by asthma, that most psychosomatic of diseases. Accounts of his death are full of details of his fight against the woodlouse scabs, flaps, beating his left side with

his fist and gasping for air. In February, 1846, he died young, Dehaurau struck back of his head badly, plunging down one of the spring-traps to the ground. Dehaurau, traditionally associated with Hell in the theater world, was the character George Sand's anxious friend on this occasion with his flourish: "I do not know what terms to express my appreciation. My pen is no voice on stage, but my heart is like my face." Dehaurau died of asthma and on June 17, 1846, and died at three in the afternoon.

The young Jules Chas-  
fleury had witnessed this  
night at the Punauboles. The  
were playing the Noctes  
Pierrot. At the final curtain  
was Debureau's turn to let  
a single tear which traced  
a dark line down the white  
enferme. He left the theatre  
at midnight by the little  
door into the rue Fossé-  
Temple, the white carriage  
Pierrot's wedding feast place



Clive Barnes/New York Notebook

## A year when art felt the economic pinch

Apart from that Mrs Lincoln, how did you enjoy the play? It was a year when New York where the arts did not exactly predominate. It was a year—and I am still talking about 1975—when New York City almost went down the drain, and yet, this was the irony, one would hardly have noticed it. One read the papers, and watched the television, and certainly many, many people were thrown out of work. But for a lot of New Yorkers the fiscal crisis was not so much illusory as unreal. But it did affect them—not least in the arts.

The only fair way to look back at a year is without reference. What someone remembers is of more value than what someone looks up, and although 1975 was a stringent year for the arts in New York, it was also a valuable year.

Among films, for example, the big money-spinner was *Jaws*. It is perhaps difficult to imagine why, but it appears that the great American public has for long enjoyed a love-hate relationship with killer sharks. This film cashed in on it. My 12-year-old daughter loved it. But then she has loved every disaster movie since *The Poseidon Adventure*—she even sits up to watch *The Towering Inferno* or *Airport Part Two* (or whatever it is called) on cable television.

For me the best film, by far, was Robert Altman's *Nashville*, an epic view of civilization in decline, together with an almost affectionate glance at America today. There have been many other good films—right at the end of the year we had Stanley Kubrick's *Barry Lyndon*, but undoubtedly one of the major trends of the year was not towards the art film, but towards porno-chic. It could have great repercussions for the industry.

In the world of painting and sculpture no new reputations seem to have been established, but a few have been endorsed. This is a general pattern. The legal suits over the Mark Rothko estate, attempting to establish an objective for measuring the value of a work of art, have proved interesting, as also have the attempts of Rouben Horewitz to campaign for artists to receive, by law, an ongoing percentage on their work. The concept, and it is a very interesting one, is that every time a painting or sculpture by a living artist is sold, the artist receives a percentage of the profit made by the seller.

The rest of the art scene has been dominated by threats from the economy and very interesting exhibitions from abroad. Scythian gold from Russia, romantic painting from

France, and a whole caravan of Persian art from Iran. That was the year when music was not exactly the food of love, but more the food of discontent. Pierre Boulez took his baton out of the ring at the New York Philharmonic and asked that orchestra to seek a new musical director. Leonard Bernstein said that he would not be interested in the actual job—and I am paraphrasing the thoughts of a man I like very much—but he would enjoy having his own thing going, on his own terms, with the orchestra. Meanwhile, Georg Solti has continued to demonstrate that his orchestra, the Chicago Symphony, is arguably the best in the world.

In opera we saw Julius Rudel's New York State Opera moving towards newer concepts of total theatre—any moment now its slide projectionist is going to be more important to it than Beverly Sills. Yet the company is offering a new approach to opera—multi-visual, multi-lateral approach to music,

that is bound to create waves in the entire world of opera. Even in the strait ranks of the Metropolitan Opera.

The Met is now under the steady but efficient management of Anthony Bliss, but the two men dedicated to carry it through the twentieth-century—or was it the nineteenth-century?—are James Levine and John Dexter. They think alike, talk alike, and, most important, have the same image of opera. Probably no opera house in the world has a better artistic team.

For the theatre the year has been another one of agony—the move from the private to the public sector, the ever-growing emphasis (seen in London) on the institutional rather than the entrepreneurial theatre. Which leads, inevitably, to Joseph Papp, who is the hero-villain of the American theatre. For Joe it was a very mixed year.

He changed his policy at Lincoln Center—sensitively enough, from doing fresh new plays to

performing classics. This almost certainly had to be done. New York needs a major classic theatre and the obvious place for it is at Lincoln Center.

However, Papp was smart—he took his image of the new theatre to Broadway. And there it died. He had the Booth Theatre for a season, and he produced one play, which was not a very good play, and the financial underpinning of his brave new season subsided.

This was a loss—for Papp offered to Broadway a place for the unexpected and the untried. But Papp will be back. He is, I sometimes fear, the Hubert Humphrey of the American theatre. Yet Papp has now produced on Broadway the most outstanding show of the year, Michael Bennett's *A Chorus Line*. It is luminous and lights up the town.

Our other institutional theatres have enjoyed a pretty good year. Ted Mann's The Circle in the Square staged a marvellous revival of Arthur Miller's *The Death of a Sales-*

man starring George C. Scott, but such a production has been typical of a year which has emphasized America's contribution to the theatre.

One of the most surprising elements of the cultural year in New York has been the dominance of Dance. It would be easy to make too much of this. After all many more people go to the movies, certainly watch television, or even go to the theatre, than see Dance. But suddenly, in New York, Dance is the thing that is most talked about. It is, and I have to say it, the cultural trend.

There could be many reasons for this. The sheer impact of television has probably interested a whole generation of people in the visual image. Dance appears to be the art that is on the brink of people's minds at present. This year Dance has exploded in New York—not simply in opera houses and the state theatre but even on Broadway. Marjorie

Marshall, as the Mark Hellinger, and the Ursula T. has played host to a variety of Dance engagements, including American Ballet Theatre and its host of all-stars.

Dance, the arts—one wonders, perhaps it is simply because, one talks, and there is the immediacy of unspoken action. Perhaps we have new art audience in the way people who want to look at things visually and draw their own intellectual conclusions. For such people Dance is an enormous attraction—

he minds nurtured on it and yet, perhaps starved imagination. Maurice Béjart, imaged that the twentieth-century was to be the century of dance—he may be coming in late, but he may well be right. New York is any indication. Dance is remarkably, incredibly, becoming a major art form. Any day now they will start dancing in the streets.



Pierre Boulez (he took his baton out of the ring) and Leonard Bernstein—not interested.



## Bridge

## Following the simple rules

There is little to choose between basic systems as long as the latest refinements are ignored. Everyone values his hand by counting his honours, even when he also, consciously or unconsciously, adds and subtracts points for cards which gain or lose from their position and from suit distributions.

The beginner undoubtedly profits from using the "big" One Club to show a hand of 17 or more points, for two reasons; he will mentally record from a positive response (ie, any response but One Diamond) on eight points that he is in the game zone, and if his partner makes any other opening bid when he has not the values for a minimum response he will keep out of trouble.

The theory behind the forcing One Club goes back 45 years; when it was subsequently found that the four trick One

Club was easily upset by opponents who could afford to make preemptive interventions, the strong One No Trump took the place. The present tendency is to employ a weak opening No Trump (containing not more than one trick above an average hand); partners at duplicate think in terms of defence as much as of attack, and take different chances from the normal risks in a rubber.

Despite the ease with which sound principles are acquired by a player who clings to one basic strong bid, he is never satisfied with such a simple approach. The Precision system originally laid down a number of sensible, if artificial, rules; as soon as they were adopted, theorists tried to improve on them. Beginners are hopelessly confused by these variations and I shall not discuss them; but there are other basic rules

which experts now ignore, such as the need for protection in the suit which will be attacked. Assume that two players cut together and agree to use standard bids—Two Clubs forcing, Stayman and Blackwood; you will find that, unless they discuss their methods in detail, the influence of match-pointed duplicate pairs will persuade them to reach unsatisfactory contracts in No Trumps. North, holding ♠ A Q 10 2 ♥ 7 3 ♦ K 4 ♣ A K J 10 8, bid his hand in a straightforward way.

South held ♠ J 6 2 ♥ Q 9 6 ♦ 10 6 2 ♣ Q 7 3 and went down, losing the first few diamonds and the ♣A—after having guaranteed protection in the red suits.

When North complained because he had not been given a preference response of Two

Clubs, he was told that he was not up to date. South quoted from a bidding quiz: "It would be nice to have a stopper in the unbid suit; but you can't be expected to have everything and Two Clubs is not recommended." Of course, North wished to be in game but played by him so that the lead of a diamond came up to his doubler's ♠ K 4. His partner had modelled his bidding on the experts who pay more heed to the level of the response than to a guard in one suit.

Unpretentious club players are surprised when they read of champions who fail to make game in No Trumps where they themselves would find little difficulty. Here is a deal from round 7 of the World Championship 1974, played in the same contract by six declarers two of whom went down. No score; dealer West.

West North East South  
♠ J T 5 3 ♠ A Q ♠ A Q ♠ A Q  
♥ 5 2 ♥ Q 9 3 ♥ Q 9 3 ♥ Q 9 3  
♦ A 6 4 ♦ A 6 4 ♦ A 6 4 ♦ A 6 4  
♣ A 9 8 ♣ A 9 8 ♣ A 9 8 ♣ A 9 8  
W N E W N E W N E W N E  
10 4 2 10 4 2 10 4 2 10 4 2  
Q J 10 7 4 Q J 10 7 4 Q J 10 7 4 Q J 10 7 4  
Q J 5 8 5 Q J 5 8 5 Q J 5 8 5 Q J 5 8 5  
West North East South  
1 Diamond 2 ♠ 3 No Trump 4 ♠  
5 ♠ 6 ♠ 7 ♠ 8 ♠ 9 ♠ 10 ♠ 11 ♠ 12 ♠  
13 ♠ 14 ♠ 15 ♠ 16 ♠ 17 ♠ 18 ♠ 19 ♠ 20 ♠  
21 ♠ 22 ♠ 23 ♠ 24 ♠ 25 ♠ 26 ♠ 27 ♠ 28 ♠  
29 ♠ 30 ♠ 31 ♠ 32 ♠ 33 ♠ 34 ♠ 35 ♠ 36 ♠  
37 ♠ 38 ♠ 39 ♠ 40 ♠ 41 ♠ 42 ♠ 43 ♠ 44 ♠  
45 ♠ 46 ♠ 47 ♠ 48 ♠ 49 ♠ 50 ♠ 51 ♠ 52 ♠

would not describe the play of the ♠K to the first trick as a mistake, although we know that the clubs are more likely to break 5-3 than 4-4. But I find it curious that West did not reject the bid of Two Diamonds (which suggests a more unbalanced hand) in favour of One No Trump.

So here we are again, with East holding trump support for his partner but careful not to go beyond Three No Trumps, while West feels that he must rebid Diamonds to make plain that he has a five-card suit; West does not bid Two Hearts because he has only three hearts. With all these arbitrary bidding rules you may wonder whether the systems contribute greatly to bridge science and whether card-play does not remain the most important element.

Edward Mayer

## Good Food Guide

## The culinary gospel spreads into the wilderness

Restaurateurs, like other men who have the choice, prefer to establish themselves not just where the takings are good but where the grass is green, the stone mellow, or the waves sunlit. This, together with the natural optimism of the southern counties (does it even affect bank managers?) probably helps to explain why the annual turnover rate of *Good Food Guide* entries is distinctly faster in the Home Counties and the West than in places where it takes a streak of obscurity to settle and make a living.

Some people, of course, are individual and volatile enough to upset all statistics, and one such is Jean-Claude Denat, who was mourned by Bristolians when he moved from the Restaurant du Gourmet all the way to Knockinham Lodge in Wiltshire a few years ago, and is now being mourned all over again in the Scottish Lowlands, because he and his wife have resented in the New Forest, half an hour's drive from Southampton (along A31 to the outskirts of Cadnam). The place does not yet look much from outside, but inside Le Chateaucer gives the restaurant its name appears in ornamental form on the mantelpiece, and in edible form on the menu, as a coq au vin done to a recipe which M. Denat originally learnt from his first master in Dijon.

It tasted properly Burgundian, too, when a *Guide* inspector tried it recently, and on this and other occasions there have already been approving accounts of other things on the ambitious à la carte menu: onion soup, champignons à l'armagnac (sauté with chicken livers, 85p), côte de veau val de l'Auge (€245), pommes dauphine, chateaucer with walnuts. Old loyalties, if nothing else, entail wines from Aveyron, and the warm desire to please that won the Denats so many friends in Bristol has evidently lost nothing in their double migration.

The New Forest has in fact seldom been very lucky in its

restaurants, but it has been a land of milk and honey compared with Glastonbury. One correspondent, after a visit to the restaurant in Magdalone Street, tersely called No 3 Dinington, even remarks sardonically: "It is fine that the cradle of English Christianity should at long last have a place where the food does not move one in blasphemy." The missionary spirits concerned in this enterprise are George Atkinson (who cooks) and Charles Foden, and like the rough-and-mug Gossellers of a bygone era they pull no punches about the practices of the beathen: "We believe that British ingredients are the best in the world, if not ruined in the preparation. . . . We will not employ any professionals trained in the art of British cuisine, that is, keeping the best food back for themselves and taking the easiest and cheapest way out by using bottled sauces, frozen vegetables and substitutes such as margarine for butter and mineral for olive oil. . . . If for any reason either of us cannot be in the house, we close."

The owners say they do not aspire to haute cuisine, but the accounts good judges have given of their casserole of pigeon breasts in wine and olives, roast quail with madeira sauce, chocolate truffle dessert, and tart with almonds and cherries, they are being over-modest. They care, too, about cheese and wine. Maurice Sutton, carefully bought Gorgon-

zola, or home-made cream cheese are offered, and so are fairly priced bottles of hand-bottled wine from good merchants, not forgetting Muscat de Beaumes de Venise or fine Sauternes to choose from at the dessert stage. The decoration and furniture is in keeping with the first few decades of a Georgian private house.

Stammering Newton in Dorset, by contrast with Glastonbury, is a quiet country town where few but Thomas Hardy pilgrims penetrate, and where even a single serious eating place, let alone two, could hardly be expected. But Plumbar Manor (in the current *Guide*) is now keenly rivalled by the Townhouse, another Georgian building which when the Howells bought it in 1972 did not even have running water.

Like many other people with old places of this kind, they have mended matters gradually, restored their own antiques, and bunched down table settings that match, before opening a restaurant that now surely rivals them in the townhouse, another Georgian building which when the Howells bought it in 1972 did not even have running water.

tor has found first impressions of the little place slightly daunting—"a craggy bar, ambitious or over-described menu"—and as usual in such cases, main courses do not always achieve the same "Emish" as the rest. But light and crisp cheese courtesies, juicy noisettes of lamb with a red wine and Cassis sauce, and mushrooms on toast made a very good meal indeed for one visitor, and Mr Howell's active interest in the wine trade is a further bonus. Indeed, another diner "first realized there was more to this place than met the eye when a diffident request for a glass of wine as an aperitif was granted not with a sultrious Spanish white but with chilled Yugoslav Traminer." Other wines, from Yugoslav Cabernet at under £2 to various Bourg champagnes at about £7, are also interestingly chosen.

Further west still, at Churchill's in Teignmouth, another migrant chef has found a new niche. William Stafford's work at Dinteen's in Sutton Coldfield was often praised in the *Guide* at the time, and his craftsmanship has impressed early visitors to this upstairs restaurant which he runs with his partner, Antonio Martin, and both their wares. A fellow-chef, though not too forgetful of his calling to omit mention of "dined peaches for pêche flamée, underripe Brice straight from the fridge, and Burgundy

served at about 80 degrees", is also generous enough to describe "extra large prawns with garlic mayonnaise, rib of beef bordelaise complete with bone marrow, and exceptional saddle of hare, sauce grand veneur, with chestnut puree shells, and an apple stuffed with redcurrant jelly".

Others have taken similar pleasure in their meals here, not least in the pan-to-table dishes such as rabe au beurre noir that may appear on the short menus for inexpensive set lunches. The food deserves better wines though. Le Chateaucer, Romsey Road, Cadnam, Hampshire, Tel. Cadnam 3271. Closed Mon. Meals 12-2, 7-10. Meal with wine, £6. Book.

Number 3, Magdalone Street, Glastonbury, Somerset. Tel: Glastonbury 32129. Mealtimes by arrangement. Table d'hôte meal with wine, £5.25. Townhouse, Church Street, Sturminster Newton. Tel: Sturminster Newton 72574. Closed Sunday dinner. Meals, 12.30-1.45, 7.30-9.30. Meal with wine, £5.30. Churchill's, Den Road, Teignmouth, Devon. Tel: Teignmouth 4311. Closed Monday. Saturday lunch. Meals, 12.30-2, 7.30-10.30. Table d'hôte meal (weekdays) with wine, £3.10; Sundays, £3.40. A la carte meal with wine, £4.90. Book.

## ENTERTAINMENTS

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# Chess

## Going Dutch

There is an old, friendly rivalry between England and the Netherlands at chess that goes back 70 years or more. It says much for the Dutch spirit of enterprise, and for their methodical cultivation of the game, that no whole the Lowlanders have got the better of the struggle. Why this should be, or rather should have been, is harder to determine.

Is it a case of "small is best", as modern ungrammatical jargon would have it? The argument here is that, being so much smaller than the United Kingdom, Holland can more easily concentrate its quintessential strength. It is by rolling it all into one ball that Holland can produce so decisive a punch. There may be something in this theory, but it does clash with the pragmatic evidence that big countries, having a greater area of choice, tend to excel.

Is the Dutch organization better than ours? I venture to doubt it. Their organizers and chess administrators have been known to commit the same mistakes as ours, and just as frequently. The fact that in junior chess at any rate we are superior, and have been for some time, would also seem to deny the idea that theirs is a more intuitive grasp of the game than ours.

It does, however, seem to be true that the Dutch penchant for orderliness and method tends to produce the greater chess. Nowhere in the world, not even in his home country of Germany has Dr Tarrasch, the preceptor Germanicus of chess as he is sometimes known, a greater following. The result has been that Holland has produced three grandmasters—Dr Euwe, Donner and Timman—to our none and, of course, in the first named, a world champion, whereas our nearest to this happy consummation has been Howard Staunton, who, for a period of about 10 years in the 1840s, was regarded as Europe's best player.

This disparity was shown up strongly in the Olympiads in which small teams of four plus two reserves are *de rigueur*. Holland has all too often come much higher than England in such competitions. Dutch domination over eight boards has been less marked, but even there they have had the better of it on the whole.

Now, happily, it looks as though the tide is turning in our favour. This is a year when preliminary competitions are being held all over Europe to determine which teams are going to join the present European champions, the USSR, in the finals of the European Championship in Moscow next year. England and Holland were the chief rivals in the preliminary group, which included Wales and France, a qualifying place in the final and last month the decisive match was played at Finsbury.

England entered this last qualifying round in a most favourable position, having done much better against Wales than the Dutch. This was a double round contest, and in the first round England lost by 3-1. Had they fared even worse in the second round and lost by, say, 3-5 it would have been the Dutch who would have been preparing to travel to Moscow in 1977. But our players fought back nobly to win by 4-1 and make the final result a draw.

Thus England won the group with a score of 33½ points, followed by Holland (31), Wales (18) and France (13). For the second time in succession England has succeeded in qualifying for the final of the European team championship, thereby proving they are one of the best eight teams in Europe, a feat that is not to be underestimated.

The results of the England-Holland match were: Keene 0, Timman 1, 1; Hartston 1, 1; Sosonko 1, 1; Miles 1, 1; Donner 1, 0; Stean 1, 0; Böhm 0, 1; Mestel 1, 0; Ree 1, 1; Whiteley 1, 1; Lighterink 1, 0; S. Webb 1, 1; Kijpers 1, 0; Bellin 1, 1; Zuidema 1, 0.

One remarkable contrast in this match was that whereas Holland had two grandmasters and five international masters in their team, England had no grandmasters and only four international masters.

Five games played on Board 6 in the second round of the match. White: Whiteley. Black: Lighterink. QP King's Indian Defence.

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## Antiques

known of these services is that decorated with "green" Watteau style figures, but a much rarer service is painted with harbour and quay scenes and the marriage arms.

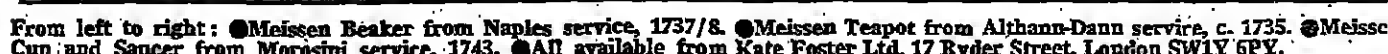
Whether or not it was through these services being seen and admired that the fashion spread one cannot be sure, but, in 1741 a service was made for Pope Benedict XIV (Lambertini) and it seems to have gone to town, doing splendid tableware. (Napoli, Pisanò-Cornaro, Grandengo, Contarini and Morosini) are only a few of the families known by us to have had services. However, it should not be forgotten that Venice was on the direct porcelaine route from Meissen, via Vienna, to Naples.

For anyone interested primarily in porcelain and also fascinated in heraldry and history, the collecting of Meissen armorial porcelain is very rewarding and, what makes it the more desirable, very decorative. There still exist services with unidentified arms, so that discoveries can still be made; and, if the identifiable services have been split up, it should be possible to put together pieces from most of the known services, except in very rare cases when one can find a few ready-made themes for collecting.

**Kate Foster**

*The author is a dealer in antique porcelain.*

The author is a dealer in antique porcelain.



## Gardening

won several awards, including a first class certificate for the 'Crimson' variety and an award of merit for the mixture.

Another trial at Wisley in 1975 that surprised many visitors was that of pelargoniums (geraniums) of the zonal or bedding variety raised from seed sown in January, to flower from June onwards in the same year. These new varieties breed remarkably true to colour and make really bushy free flowering plants.

There has been some development too with the spreading Climax range. In addition to the pink and white forms it is now possible to buy a mixture of carmine, rose, pink, lilac and purple shades.

Perhaps the most interesting trial of all at Wisley last year was of modern varieties of impatiens, or busy lizzies, grown in full sun.

**Roy Hay**

## Roy Hay

*Saturday Bazaar*

**Our idea of a holiday  
Times Personal Columns  
p. 23 and 24**

**01-278 9351**



## Putting US foreign policy under a microscope

The American bicentennial has come at a time when many Americans are trying to take a new look at their foreign policy. One such look is in an article in the current issue of *Foreign Policy*, where Mr Richard Ullman, leading political scientist, traces American foreign policy attitudes to the beginnings of the republic and identifies two main strands—the "Washingtonian" and the "Wilsonian".

The "Washingtonian" strand derives from George Washington's farewell address, in which he warned against foreign entanglements. The Wilsonian strand takes its name from Woodrow Wilson, and his belief in the need to spread democratic ideas, though Mr Ullman considers that it goes as far back as the other Mr Ullman writes, that after the Second World War, Americans are now predominantly "Washingtonian" and are taking an attitude, not so much of isolationism, as of detachment.

This he accepts, after the difficulties that the "Democratic crusades" led to. But he argues that there is still much of value in the Wilsonian strand, and that Americans should not be indifferent to the sort of political life that is carried on in foreign countries. Specifically, they should now try to disentangle themselves from their commitments to a number of repressive regimes round the world, and avoid getting involved in new ones.

Mr Ullman makes an exception of South Korea, where an American withdrawal could lead to a major war or to the substitution of one repressive regime for another. But in other cases, he argues that "the physical security of the United States and of those other states for whom we feel primary security responsibility can only be very remotely tied to the maintenance in power of any of those regimes".

The quality of life in the United States, he maintains, is indeed affected by the quality of life in other societies. So Americans should be clearer in their own minds about the intrinsic value to American society of preserving and maintaining healthy working steadily democratic systems. The commitment to Western Europe, Japan, Canada, Australia and New Zealand, as well as to Israel, is in his view not just based on military considerations but on these other reasons.

The Washingtonian and Wilsonian strands had certain points in common from the beginning he writes. Both were based on the premise that the American democratic experiment was unique, and that it was fragile. The difference then, as now, was over the best way to defend it, whether by keeping out of involvement in other parts of the world, or by trying to ensure that the outside world was fired by the same ideals.

In the years after the Second World War, it was the Wilsonian strand that predominated—even though there was hardly an external threat to America. It led to the idea of huge payments of foreign aid to poor countries, in the hope that they would adopt the "third way", one which was neither totalitarian communism nor liberal capitalism, but democratic capitalism.

It also led to the Americans giving their support to reactionary and repressive regimes provided they were anti-communist. Mr Ullman explains this feature of the Cold War as a distortion of Wilsonian principles. "We tolerated abuses of our principles by our allies under the assumption that they were necessary to protect embryonic democracies such as South Vietnam or South Korea."

"We comforted ourselves by accepting cynical promises of future good behaviour on the part of our clients and by regarding their right-wing authoritarianism—even of the most ruthless kind, as in Seoul or Saigon, or now in Santiago—as at least 'reversible', whereas once a communist regime comes to power it will never again allow genuine freedom of electoral choice."

This has been damaging in several different ways, Mr Ullman finds. It has eroded American credibility in the eyes of democrats in other countries—people who had once looked to the United States for enlightened leadership. It has also undermined support for their government's foreign policy from Americans themselves, who have come to distrust any pronouncements on such subjects from Washington.

At the same time, over extension abroad, consistently designed to protect American democracy, has in fact had the opposite effect. "For the past two years, the American media has been filled with accounts of unconstitutional acts, in direct abridgement of the rights of American citizens, undertaken by agents of the executive from the President on down, all in the name of an endless campaign on behalf of freedom."

The answer, in his view, is neither to indulge in extreme Wilsonian crusades nor to adopt the view that the political systems of other countries makes no difference to life in the United States. Understandably enough, he sees no danger of the first in the United States of today. But he argues strongly for taking more account of the political complexion of a country in determining American policies towards it.

Governments, he points out, have little use for dissent as such, no matter where it takes place. But Americans should be concerned about the preservation of systems in which it is possible to have "the stifling of dissent in a society makes more difficult the life and work of dissenters to another".

Peter Strafford

## What is religion without its mythology?

The third and last of three articles by Bishop Butler, *Roman Catholicism and the Westminster Diocese*, in reply to the recent articles by Sir John Hick—"Changing views of the uniqueness of Christ" in *The Times*. Bishop Butler's previous articles appeared on Nov 22 and Dec 6.

How is one to choose between Professor Hick's reconstruction of Christianity and the one I have advocated? It is easy to say that, since my own is orthodox and I am a professional Christian, I am biased. But it is easy to make the same charge against Professor Hick. He wants to get rid of the "uniqueness" of Christ for the sake of the wider ecumenical movement. The Hick Common Factor principle, criticized by Ronald Knox in *Reverent All Round*.

This is a motive extraneous to his historical study. Others want to do the same thing for less worthy motives, for example, to make what would be left of Christianity palatable to a secular, and chronically incoherent, "humanism", the modern mind.

Demythologization has been with us for more than 150 years—it was not invented by the Germans. It is the Tübingen school of the early nineteenth century, but those considerable scholars realized that it would take more than a few months or years to metamorphose a merely human Jewish rabbi into a Redeemer consubstantial with the Absolute Mystery. They calculated that the process would take several generations, and eventually sought to allocate the New Testament books to late dates in the second century.

Modern scholarship and fairly recent discoveries have made such late datings impossible. All the more important books of the New Testament are of the first century (except possibly the Gospel of Matthew and that of John in its present form; these may be as late as AD105). The Gospel of John cannot be much later than 105 (and may be earlier), since a fragment from a copy of it has been found in Egypt, dated by palaeography to about AD125.

Professor Hick's demythologization is rendered improbable by the results of modern scholarship. Orthodox Christianity was not a very gradual corruption of a primitive non-mythological religious enthusiasm, to a process of

individually imperceptible steps. It was much more like a sudden mutation, consequent upon the crucifixion of Jesus; or like an atomic explosion, concentrating in the briefest interval of time into a vast eye-catching and heart-rending pyrotechnical display. What then of his entirely admirable desire to secure a basis for "ecumenical" dialogue with the other religions? First, I wish to say what, in my opinion, is that specific content of Christianity which Professor Hick has sought to remove from it. It has been summed up very simply by the author of the Fourth Gospel: "God so loved the world that he sent his only-begotten Son, so that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life." Now, if you can believe that God (who, according to the First Epistle of John, is love) has prepared the way for the Christian God News by pouring his shoo-dood grace on everyone of good will.

But if you cannot believe that, you may find yourself asking: What sort of God is this who has allowed the greatest religion the world has ever seen to entangle itself and compromise its credibility with an idolatrous myth? What sort of God has allowed the immediate disciples of Jesus, his companions before the crucifixion, to bamboozle us all with a fairy-story about his resurrection from the dead? A God who is love?

There is something more to be said. What becomes of the wider ecumenical project if Christianity is to be thus demythologized? Must not the other religions be demythologized too? But general and thorough-going demythologization spells the demise of biblical religion. There will be nothing further for the religions to discuss together, and no one to discuss it.

We shall be left with a vague, pantheistic humanism set against the background of a hypothetical God of love, easily to be transformed from an ontological ("metaphysical") reality into a Kantian regulative idea. Perhaps we should re-read Browning's *Death in the Desert* (or even Bishop Blouarn's *Apology*). Professor Hick may enjoy the poetic imagery.

Bishop B. C. Butler

Times Newspapers Ltd, 1976

# The extraordinary Chou, and his dream of the great leap forward into the year 2000

Peking: The death of Chou En-lai is a huge landmark in the history of modern China. It is not only a symbolic landmark in the sense that his career spanned the Chinese revolution and influenced nearly all its vital stages, but also because of his unique personal qualities now lost for ever to a country which has by no means found the final answers to its problems.

Chou was unique in that for 40 years he succeeded in keeping the confidence of Mao Tse-tung so that he was always able to put the stamp of his own administrative genius on the grand strategy which the Chairman worked out. No other Chinese leader managed to keep the Chairman's loyalty to the Chairman as intact for so long a period, and many a one fell into disgrace and obscurity as a result.

It was at the height of the cultural revolution in 1967-68 that Chou demonstrated most ably his talent for combining loyalty to the Chairman's ideas with a moderating influence on those who, as was later to be admitted, over interpreted them and carried out such excesses as the burning of the British Embassy in 1967. It is widely believed in Peking that only Chou's personal intervention saved the British staff and their dependants from still worse mishandling.

No single person in the present leadership can fill the gap left by Chou, even if his own rôle had dwindled rapidly over the past year as he fought his losing battle with cancer. Mr Teng Hsiao-ping is expected to be appointed Prime Minister—an office which he already fulfils in practice. But Mr Teng, though clearly a gifted administrator and a strong personality, does not have the personal magnetism which almost everyone who met Chou remarked on. The cloud of seven years' disgrace still hangs over his political past. He is not regarded as a creative ideologue and his ability to mould the Chairman's often difficult ideas to the existing reality is sure to be less than Chou's.

The most likely candidate for the rôle of chief interpreter of the Chairman's thoughts is Mr Chang Chun-chiao, a party theorist who played in Shengchi a moderating rôle in the cultural revolution which in a small way reflected what Chou achieved at the national level. But Mr Chang's talents as an administrator and statesman have yet to be proved. The other Mao who seems to be rising rapidly in the new collective leadership under Chairman Mao is Mr Hua Kuo-feng, the Minister

of Public Security, who also has important responsibilities in the vital sphere of agriculture.

Whether these men, together with Mr Chiang Ching, Chairman Mao's wife, and the left-leaning ideologue, Mr Yao Wen-yuan, and Mr Li Hsiao-tien, the Deputy Prime Minister responsible for economic affairs and finance, can work as an effective team or whether they will end up by pulling in different directions, no one can yet say with certainty. The history of collective leadership in China does not give grounds for optimism.

Another sphere in which Chou's talents will be missed is that of foreign relations. The only person who at present seems to match him in intellectual appreciation of world affairs and in diplomatic urbanity is Mr Chiao Kuan-bua, the Foreign Minister, and he is not even a member of the Politburo. The most important issue which they will all have to tackle is the correct strategy for China's development into a "powerful" modern socialist country by the year 2000.

One of Chou's last public acts was to announce this goal at the Fourth



## Why American soccer is an upper-class game

### Sportsview

It has always been puzzling, annoying even, to contemplate America's indifference to soccer. All that athletic talent, all that business enterprise, all that money—surely something should be done, ought to be done, to wed all that to soccer?

There have, of course, been moments when it looked as though the marriage was about to happen. In 1916, perhaps, when big American companies such as Bethlehem Steel set up professional leagues and began importing top Scottish players; or 1930 when the United States reached the semi-finals of the first World Cup; or 1950, year of that famous 1-0 World Cup win over England. But each time, other historic soccer moments passed virtually unnoticed by the average American. It was not until 1967 that there came, at long last, signs of interest.

In that year, not one but two professional leagues burst on to the American soccer scene. After two years of almost slapstick operation (one recalled the referee wired with a buzzer that told him when to stop the game so that television could fit in a commercial) the venture collapsed.

And so to 1976, year of America's 200th birthday—and, it would seem, of yet another Birth of American Soccer. Information crosses the Atlantic and arrives characteristically garbled. Millwall manager Gordon Jago, we are told, was offered \$30,000 to become the United States national coach. The figure was \$35,000—dollars, not pounds. The exaggeration, amounting almost to a determination to misunderstand the American soccer scene, is typical.

There is, certainly, a mild boom going on in American soccer—but the place is not yet a soccer El Dorado for players and coaches. Is there any reason then, to treat this new flurry of activity any more seriously than the previous manifestations? There is. A lesson was learnt in 1968: soccer could not be imposed from the top alone. It needed growth and interest at the

grass roots level too. That growth has been going on steadily—in some areas explosively—for eight years now.

Soccer is in the process of becoming a sport widely played by Americans at high school and college. It is becoming part of the mainstream of the American sports scene. But it is a newcomer, not as it has always been everywhere else in the world—the traditional sport of the leisure class. It is fighting for its place alongside three established sports—baseball, basketball and grid-football.

In America soccer does not have the luxury of decades to which to develop unchallenged and unopposed. If it is to claim its share of the leisure dollar, its growth has to be rapid, and it has to be planned. Professional soccer, in particular, has to be run on businesslike lines.

The North American Soccer League, headed by former

money to support a team, and to attract television interest.

There is no promotion or relegation. Once an owner has bought his franchise, he is allowed as long as he likes (or if things go wrong, as long as he can take the losses) to make a success of it. An NASL franchise that cost \$25,000 in 1974 will cost \$250,000 in 1976, another indicator of the soccer boom. Grid-football's franchises cost around \$15m.

American soccer will be a quality product. The number of games in a season will be limited to avoid overexposure, and the admission prices will be kept high.

American soccer will not be the sport of the working classes. It will like grid-football, be for middle and upper-income people. It will be an executive sport, because it is executives who have the money, and it is executives who make the important decisions.

Ultimately, the whole edifice of successful high-time professional soccer in the States will depend on the same thing as has been largely responsible for grid-football's present affluence: television. That is where the big money comes from, and soccer has no other way to go. In 1975 the NASL sold the rights to its championship game to one of the national networks for \$15,000. The same year all three networks were televising grid-football games regularly throughout the season, for a fee for which they paid the sport a total of \$40m.

It is by these, admittedly commercial, criteria that the current progress of American soccer must be judged, not by comparison with the way that things are done in England. The NASL has looked at world soccer and has seen a sport that is everywhere facing a money problem. Understandably, they feel that the creation of a solid economic base must be their first concern. When that is accomplished, they believe the rest will follow.

By 1985, says Phil Woosnam, 90 per cent of the world's best players will be playing in the United States.

National People's Congress a year ago. Some would say that China is already such a country, but the leaders obviously consider that it falls far short. There are two main concepts of how China should approach her development problem. One is that she should go all out for technological progress, especially in heavy industry, and defend even if it means a danger of the kind of uneven development and social inequality which China condemns in the Soviet Union.

It is of course heretical to proposing such a course openly in China today, but the official press frequently confirms it, has its adherents in high places and may well hold sway again if Chairman Mao's teachings are not closely followed.

The other essential concept—contrary to what is often thought—is deeply conservative in Chinese terms. It is rooted in a political tradition which antedates Marx by more than two millennia, and it is an irony of history that those who pursue it most vigorously are classed nowadays as "radicals". This concept is that the precondition for political stability is a prosperous and contented peasantry, trained in self defence and organised into militia; that competition for profit is to be discouraged; that a unified ideology is essential in any state; and that music and the arts should serve social and moral rather than aesthetic purposes.

These modern aspects of this general concept of the state are novel—for instance, that the intellectuals should take part in manual labour—but they are means to the same end rather than an expression of ends different from the ideas of the Chinese. It may be a tribute to the foresight of Chairman Mao, or it may be pure coincidence, that this concept was accepted as orthodox in China only a few years before the industrial world entered its present crisis. None the less, the Chinese are acutely aware of the need to pursue advanced technology if only to counter the supposed military threat from the Soviet Union.

The recent debate in Peking's two big universities about how best to organize higher education is a miniaturized version of the general debate which affects all spheres of policy in China: whether to go for a solid base or an advanced superstructure, or what combination of the two is most desirable. Chou's particular gift was to see to have struck a balance in his own mind and in his style of administration.

But it may be that the inherent contradiction would have defeated even him in time. What remains to be seen is how the men who succeed him will set about resolving it.

David Bonavia



Pelé: maximum publicity through the super-stars.

George Hutchinson

## Mr Jenkins cannot afford more Home Office 'accidents'

To many attainments Mr Roy Jenkins must now add an unenviable distinction. He is the head of what is probably the least competent department in Whitehall. He has been there before, moreover: this is his second time round as Home Secretary. Today he stands accused of presiding over one of the most muddled, slack, slow-moving, narrow and generally inefficient administrations known in the public service.

The "clerical error" by which the Home Office miscalculated the number of Commonwealth immigrants in 1973 is, of course, unacceptable and unpardonable: 17,000 instead of 36,000. I have met nobody who is not shocked by the disclosure, for which we have Mr Enoch Powell to thank.

Not that Mr Jenkins can be blamed for the mistakes of that particular year: Labour was not in office in 1973, and responsibility lies with the Heath Government. What Mr Jenkins ran and ought to be blamed for is the perpetuation of a system still tending to concealment or at best a lack of clarity and candour. Just as the public has a right to know, the department has a duty to tell.

Somewhat is much amiss to the Home Office. There seems to be a lack of supervision, a failure of control. Lord Windlesham, one of the best (and youngest) members of Mr Heath's Cabinet, found it a department which could be slow-moving and ponderous, rather defensive on matters of

internal organization, and more than a little reluctant to alter direction for some time. It is simply because they cannot count? What is the source of this strange incapacity?

Whatever the explanation, Mr Powell's charge is abundantly vindicated. The pity is that the Conservative Government has been less alert than its recent predecessor.

If Mr Jenkins has one urgent duty, it is to retrain the Home Office. His advisers (if that is the term for them) have lately let him down in the television licence affair. As we now discover, we have all been let down over immigration, given that we would like to know the reality instead of just guessing. Worse will no doubt follow unless Mr Jenkins can put his department in

order. He has great aspirations. They can hardly be furthered by an accident-prone Home Office.

It was suggested in *The Spectator* a week or two ago that Mr Heath would be a suitable—even admirable—successor to Mr Selwyn Lloyd as Speaker of the House of Commons. This is undoubtedly true. The qualities and qualifications are there, unless Mr Heath is inclined to accept the office.

Mr Heath will be 60 in July. If he were to spend five years as Speaker he could then withdraw to the Lords at 65, there to continue his long service in the Palace of Westminster. He must recognize that he cannot regain the Conservative leadership. Nor is there likely to be a national government; or

coalition in which he might take part: the weight of probability is quite against it. Nobody wants it, so to speak—not Mr Wilson, not Mrs Thatcher. It is a pipedream, and a fading one at that.

The Speaker's is an elective office of influence and importance (accompanied, incidentally, by a rather fine house). Who better to occupy it than Mr Heath—an Addington in reverse?

By way of postscript I append an item of intelligence culled to gladden many a Tory heart (and perhaps others as well). In the fulsome of time, and given the authority of office, Mrs Thatcher will probably restore hereditary peerages.

## Living in the teeth of a force 10 gale

News of last weekend's gales travelled fast, but Ian Trewin was in London and it was not until Thursday that he saw how north-west Norfolk, where he has his cottage, had been devastated.

"I have never been so frightened in all my life," Sally, our neighbour up the river bank, was in no way dramatizing the gales that gustated to 105 mph over north Norfolk.

The north-west wind blew up suddenly. Being on the east bank of the River Great Ouse, our cottages took the full force, and inevitably something had to give: both houses began to shed panes. In itself this should not be disastrous as the waterproof felt underlay at least stops the rain getting in. But when 3lb panes of glass are flying round as if they were nothing more than featherdown, anything that gets in the way is certain to be damaged. Thus it was with our neighbour's house. Windows were shattered in their leaden frames. There were moments when they thought that the wind, now that it was swirling round inside as well as out, would lift the porch roof right off. All attempts at barricading the gaping windows with boxes proved hopeless. The wind merely sucked them into meadows outside.

Their car was parked in the cul-de-sac that runs at right angles to the Ouse between our houses. Bob decided that it ought to be moved to the lee of the house, and his problem was how to safeguard against decapitation from flying tiles outside. Finally he emerged, helmeted in a bucket, only to find that his car had already suffered a pounding: the roof net dented and scratched from the flying tiles. Further inspection outside showed that their garden gates, large and seemingly indestructible, had been torn from their substantial posts. Upstairs, the floor of one of their children's bedrooms was visibly quivering. Finally at about one in the morning the wind appeared to subside, although it was to give several cathartic gusts during the night.

At first light the damage could be properly surveyed. We had fared less badly than our neighbours, having lost only four panes, but the TV aerial hung drunkenly, held only by one bracket, and the co-axial cable, part of the gutter and rear had fallen and a brick was missing from one of the chimneys. In the garden a fence which I had put up only last October had lost two complete panes.

Now the gale's toll began to circulate. Trees were down everywhere, and all roads into King's Lynn were by now reported blocked; our local market gardener had lost one complete glasshouse (a source of particularly tasty tomatoes last summer), and the owner from further afield was that other farmers had fared worse. But help was readily at hand, as it always seems to be in west Norfolk. Good neighbours appear, he heard, which, as we were in London, was much to our advantage. Sally phoned, reported on the devastation, but told us not to worry. Builders provided emergency repairs with a speed and reliability that no longer seems obtainable in the metropolis.

As North Norfolk tidied up a new hazard emerged—flooding. Memories of the 1953 inundations were kindled after a red alert warning was broadcast. The Ouse reached 29 feet at King's Lynn. It was estimated locally that water rose at least one foot higher than in 1953 but thanks to the flood banks erected soon afterwards, there was still a safety margin of about four feet. Without that bank our village would undoubtedly have been flooded. Travelling around north-west Norfolk one could see that we escaped the worst. Devastation and chaos were the words used by our local newspaper to describe Snettisham beach to the east side of the Wash. Sandhills, the remains of caravans and chalets were everywhere. But in west Norfolk, as always seems the case in times like these, was still a safety margin. To prevent a bungalow roof from being torn away, two couples secured it with ropes, not just to the ground, but to a Land Rover for extra weight. Roof and car were both intact next morning.

Paul Gardner

سورة الاحقاف





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## SHAPING A CHINESE COMPROMISE

To the last Mr Chou En-lai's life was one of willing self-sacrifice and devotion for China. Had he died two years ago the conflicts within the Peking leadership following his death might have been much more damaging than now seems possible. At the beginning of 1974 the odd, labelled anti-Lin Biao and anti-Confucius campaign was revealing the bitter quarrels of the cultural revolution. An ideological struggle of the kind Chairman Mao relished, but of which China had suffered too many had been set in motion. Fortunately Mr Chou the shrewd and flexible conciliator was able to steer the country away from danger. Throughout 1975 direction at the centre steadily grew more firm and better directed to the right priorities as all the powers, formerly exercised by Mr Chou were taken up by Mr Teng Hsiao-ping.

In January of last year a meeting of the party central committee and the holding of the long-delayed National People's Congress drew a line under the era of the cultural revolution and assured Mr Teng of authority; and the party—as a newly elected vice-chairman, in the administration—as acting Prime Minister; and in the army—as chief of staff. The fact that this last appointment has not yet been made public in China and that Chairman Mao was absent from both these occasions was evidence enough however that even if compromises had been made deep-seated differences were still unresolved.

It would be fruitless to expose these differences by reference to personalities. Not merely because we are ignorant of the relationships and the process of decision-making in China but because the issues are such that the personalities on either side may differ and that individuals change sides—Chairman Mao included. Only over one choice among those that have faced China since 1949 does the answer seem clear: China will not be part of an international communist movement. Chairman Mao was bolstered more by hope than expectation when he went to Moscow at the end of 1949 to seek an alliance with the Soviet Union—even though he was then willing to accept Stalin's leadership. There will be—and may even be at this moment—moves towards in-

proved state relations with the Soviet Union; but the idea of a communist bloc has been dismissed and seems unlikely to be resurrected. China has the confidence to stand alone.

That unwillingness to seek allies in itself illuminates the major question: will there be a China regenerating itself by its own efforts, exemplifying its own values, evolving its own economic and political ways; confident, strong, seeking the respect of the world but rejecting too close an engagement with it? Or will there be a China determined to be second to no power in the world and accepting all the international commitments that such modernization will require? Such a choice is not after all one posed only by the communist success of 1949. Essentially it has been a conflict argued over in the longer and broader revolution to which China has been committed ever since the end of the old order in 1911.

This twentieth century revolution, in which all senior leaders in the Chinese communist movement were as much engaged as any other Chinese patriots, has been characterized paradoxically by one acute observer of modern Chinese history as a "revolution against the world to join the world". In the days of Chiang Kai-shek's Kuomintang rule and in the early period of the Chinese Communist Party's rule—prolonged as this period was by United States "containment" of China—the first half of the paradox was most manifest. The battle for Chinese rights was fuelled by the urgent temper of Chinese nationalism. Only in the past five years has China felt free to join the world and found also sufficient welcome from the world.

The difficulty in analysing this choice is in understanding the Chinese and revolutionary context. As our Peking correspondent explains in his article on the opposite page moderate and radical in right-left western terms can be misleading categories. To revert to personalities it might be said that Mr Chou En-lai fought the battle against the world without ever doubting that China should join it; whereas Chairman Mao, while veering towards the world, and always ready to learn from it or to use it in China's interests, has found his own creative impulse

to be most fruitful in the re-ordering of Chinese society. He is a man as much anchored to the Chinese past and to Chinese ways as he is to his own dream of a revolutionary future.

In its simplest definition the twentieth century revolution in China made equality with the intruding and conquering west its goal. A China strong enough in its own defence, rich enough in its economic advance, modern enough by its scientific progress, admired enough as a civilized equal of any country. Since 1949 China's Government has won support among the Chinese people in making such advances. Much of the political theory to which they are attributed or the irksome disciplines imposed have been accepted for that reason. On this foundation Chairman Mao has sought to build the revolutionary China that he conceives to be in keeping with Chinese values and it proves more often to be a China that rejects the world rather than one that joins it. In its extreme manifestations it has seemed xenophobic, regarding revolutionary purity almost as an end in itself. In other forms the marriage of urban and rural, the preference for the small against the large, the insistence upon equality and a modest frugality have won admiration.

Nevertheless the choice between a Chinese way and the rejection of the world, opposed to a China joining the world, can, to an outside view, only seem a false one. By their intrusion into China in the nineteenth century the western powers forced upon China a consciousness of a world that China had ignored—at least for the preceding centuries. Ever since that confrontation the Chinese have been bound to join this world. What is at issue is the time it will take to work out a compromise, to find a balance between a necessary Chinese and a comfortable internationalism. It was Mr Chou En-lai's virtue that his knowledge and experience of the world gave him confidence that China could attain that end. China has suffered in the past decade when the argument has sometimes been conducted in terms of revolutionary righteousness set against corrupting revisionism. Perhaps it will now be continued in less damaging ways under the direction of Mr Teng Hsiao-ping's blunt pragmatism.

## MODEST REALISM ABOUT MONEY

Yesterday's agreement at the Kingston meeting of the International Monetary Fund has few of the obvious hallmarks of a great settlement which goes down in history, in the way that the Bretton Woods Agreement shaped two decades after the war. In spite of promises of closer cooperation between Central Banks in their activities in the currency markets, the change from the system we have known in recent years, in which parties are allowed to vary in response to market pressures, will be almost imperceptible. Some of the gold in the vaults of the IMF will be sold off, but it will remain a precious metal and a number of countries at least will continue to hold it as an important part of their national reserves and hope that it will play a role in the monetary order of the future. And, in the Fund itself, the preponderance of the United States and other western nations will continue even though new voting arrangements will give a greater say to the oil producing countries who have become the new rich of the world system.

The fact that little has changed however should not lead one to the conclusion that nothing has been achieved. This is particularly true of the work of the Finance Ministers in their efforts over the past two years to achieve monetary reform. What we have now is a system which combines the flexibility of floating rates with the legitimacy which previously went with fixed parities. Although the new Articles of the IMF call for a

return to stable parities at some time in the future, they do not specify any date for that action. In a world in which currencies must adjust their value relative to one another, it is better to build such adjustments into the system than to try to outlaw them in the sure knowledge that such policies can only bring the rules into contempt. This is why the legalization of floating, which is the effective result of the new IMF rules, is to be welcomed. The international monetary system is now trying to channel economic forces in the international monetary field rather than to defy them.

A similar sense of realism is shown in the decision to sell off some of the Fund's stock of gold and distribute the proceeds to poorer countries through a specially constituted Trust Fund. Whatever the merits of using gold as the basis of the world monetary system, it clearly does not play such a role at the moment. It equally clearly makes little sense to include large quantities of the metal in the Fund's reserves at a price which is so conspicuously below the price which it commands in the free market without supporters and opponents of the idea that gold should play a part in the monetary system can welcome the sale of some of the Fund's gold and the return of a portion of it to the Central Banks which originally paid it in.

The increase in the Fund's quotas, and also in the borrowing rights of its members, might at first sight seem to be a more controversial aspect of the agree-

ment. The world is still suffering from a hugely damaging inflation which has put at risk the very foundation of our societies. It would clearly be wrong, at a moment when the admittedly unpalatable medicine of recession is beginning to be effective, to introduce a new dose of the disease by increasing liquidity. Yet this is what the effect of the Jamaica agreement could be unless the industrialized nations recognize the extra responsibilities which are imposed upon them as a result of the concessions which have been made in response to the demands of the developing nations. These countries are already facing such extremes of poverty that it would be wrong to expect them to reduce their living standards even further to cope with their balance of payments problems. It is right to ease their burden, but the West must accept that this means an even tighter policy at home than would otherwise be followed.

It would be cruel charity indeed which lent the poorer nations of the world money with which they paid for our exports if at the same time we were fuelling a new inflation of the kind which has done so much to hurt developing countries in recent years. If we remember that lesson, then the agreement at Kingston, unheroic though it may seem, will go down in history as one of the decisive indicators of the turn towards realism which is the essential ingredient in building a more stable and prosperous world.

## Foreign Service allowances

From Mrs Maureen Wilton  
Sir, Mr Rupert Evans continues to go on about boarding school allowances for members of the Diplomatic Service. May I state, at the outset, what it is that members of the service get? They are paid a part, not the whole, of the cost of sending their children to a boarding school in the United Kingdom. Because of doctrinal objections to paying tax-free allowances to people at home the sum while they are at home may be three times as great as while they are abroad but they never touch the additional money: it is added on and taken off again before anything at all is paid into their banks.

Why should they get even part of the cost of educating their children in the United Kingdom paid for? Because there is no alternative which would not cost more and produce worse results. Since the children began to go to school in 1956 my husband and I have served in eight different posts—twice in London and six times abroad. In some places there were schools; in others there were not. Where there were schools the cost was often higher than that of a boarding school in the United Kingdom. How could we have sent about educating our children?

There is, of course, one obvious solution: to restrict entry into the Diplomatic Service to those with sufficient private means to enable them to serve anywhere in the world without having to bother about such trifles as the cost of giving their children uninterrupted education. But I thought that Mr Evans's reforms after the war were intended to remove the need for that sort of discrimination.

Yours sincerely  
MAUREEN WILTON,  
Somersdale House,  
The Drive,  
Chichester,  
Sussex,  
January 8.

## Police courtesy

From Mr J. D. Singh  
Sir, A journalist's normal reporting duty is to serve the public with news of death and disaster, crises and catastrophe. I would like to change like to share with your readers a refreshing experience of mine. It happened on the first Saturday of the new year. I was waiting in the small reception hallway of the Accon Town police station as a relation, who had accompanied me, being interviewed for a traffic offence when an old couple arrived. They had no food in the house

(“just a bit of cheese and half a loaf”) and no money. The local social security office was closed till Monday and the sick money the old man was expecting from the firm in Regent Street he worked with part time had not arrived.

The officer on duty, a courteous and helpful man, went into action immediately. He made a few telephone calls and eventually got through to the manager of the Regent Street firm and arranged with him for some money to be paid to the old man from the local branch of the firm. When the old man said he did not even have the bus fare the officer dipped into his own pocket and handed him a coin with the remark: “Let this be 10p.” The old man returned after half an hour, beaming with relief, and handed back the coin to the officer, who then put it into the collection box.

The police around the world are accused of so much cruelty and callousness—often with good reason—that I thought an act of kindness and compassion such as this should go some way to correct the image. Yours faithfully,  
J. D. SINGH,  
London Correspondent,  
The Times of India,  
30A District Road,  
Wembley, Middlesex,  
January 5.

## Inheritance of tenant farms

From Mr John Gort, Conservative MP for Barnet, Hendon, North

Sir, At a time when the inheritance of property is under constant attack by both front and backbench socialists, it is quaint (to put it mildly) to discover a small cell of Labour MPs who are proposing to extend the bereaved principle into previously uncharted regions—namely into the inheritance of occupations.

Without fuss or propaganda three revolutionary northerners are seeking to amend the innocent-sounding Agriculture (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill which is at present logging its way through its Committee Stage in the House of Commons. If their amendment is accepted, and the minister responsible for the Bill seems inclined to accept it, the following consequences will ensue:

Overnight, the families of existing tenants will acquire the exclusive privilege to continue farming their tenancy for ever and ever. As a result the nation will not only select its next generation of farmers, but it will also appoint certain elite families to become the country's farmers for all time.

Simultaneously, institutional investment in agriculture will surely dry up, as investors come to realize that their money is in the hands of a privileged elite over whom they have virtually no control.

So far, the only paid hereditary office known to this country is, I believe, the monarchy. It is interesting that this radical, nationalizing, socialist Government should now have turned its attention to this new, and unexpected, version of “jobs for the boys”.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN GORT,  
House of Commons,  
January 7.

## Paying for sewerage

From Lord Boyd-Carpenter

Sir, There is a simple and fair answer to the problem posed in your article “General Tax or Special Charge” (January 9). That is for the sewerage rate to be made general by competitively drafted local authorities and for the water rates to be placed under a statutory obligation to supply without further charge equivalent services to the sewerage.

My own sewerless house in the country region has its sewerage pit cleared twice a year. It is plainly unfair that I should have to pay for this myself and on top of this contribute to the cost of other people's sewers. Your own argument that it is in my interest that the sewer should not pollute itself also supports the proposition that it is in its interest that I should not pollute the countryside. I am, Sir, your obedient servant,  
BOYD-CARPENTER,  
House of Lords,  
January 9.

## Other countries' business

From Mrs Anne Rawcett

Sir, I find your letter from Sir Charles Taylor (January 7) quite shocking. Would he really think that a woman, a doctor and a Christian should fail to help another human being if it were in her power to do so?

It is fair that in his letter, by implication, he associates action such as Dr Cassidy's with that of terrorists, hijackers and kidnappers?

Very deeply I hope that our Foreign Office will continue to support courageously and humanely people who stand wherever they may be, rather than “wash their hands of them” and “pass by on the other side”. Yours sincerely—but I hope not sentimentally,  
ANNE RAWCETT,  
The Mill House, Ickleton,  
Selborne, Wiltshire,  
Essex,  
January 7.

## Price of potatoes

From Mr N. D. Cadbury

Sir, Mr N. D. Jones (letters, January 8) should treat the claim by farmers that they are only receiving a small share of the increase in the price of potatoes, with some scepticism.

As manufacturers of the instant competitor, Smash, we purchased approximately 60,000 tons of potatoes direct from farmers and are paying by far the highest price for the potatoes we paid for last season's crop.

The recommended consumer price of our product has risen by 52.6 per cent in the past 12 months which has been made possible by the proportionately much smaller increase in our large manufacturing costs.

However, the answer to Mr Byron Jones's point is that the alternative to a much increased potato price would have been rationing and consequently the development of a black market. Yours faithfully,  
N. D. CADBURY, Chairman,  
Cadbury Typhoo Limited,  
PO Box 177,  
Franklin House,  
Bourville,  
Birmingham,  
January 8.

## Women's investment income

From Mrs Hilda M. Stowell

Sir, Married women with an earned income are certainly looking to the Treasury for the reform of income tax regulations. At present married women are permitted to handle the payment of income tax on their earned income. But when she invests part of that income in shares her investment income becomes her husband's liability.

The harmony of married life in this country should no longer be disturbed by such blatant discrimination against men. Yours faithfully,  
HILDA M. STOWELL,  
Dorley Lodge,  
Dorley, Southampton,  
January 3.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Restraining violence in Ulster

From Sir Gilbert Longden

Sir, It is now incontestable that both Conservative and Labour administrations have, in that part of the United Kingdom called Ulster, failed in the first duty of government which is to protect the lives and property of HM's subjects, and that, in spite of three valuable assets: the tremendous courage and patience of the armed forces there; a bi-partisan policy; and the sympathetic, if not always effective, cooperation of the Dublin Government.

How much longer are we to tolerate these self-inflicted wounds? (How long would they be tolerated in other countries, e.g. the Soviet Union?) Your leader today (January 7) suggests a next step towards the re-aligning of the map of the United Kingdom as England, Scotland and Wales; that both parties are pledged that it shall so remain as long as the majority there so wish; and that therefore, though most of us would desire like to see Ireland united, no British Government could till then honourably contemplate withdrawal.

But I think the time is overdue for a radical and far-reaching step—the re-alignment of the map of the British Isles. Since it must now be considered incontrovertible that the fanaticism of both “Loyalists” and “Roman Catholics” prevents their living together in amity as do their coreligionists elsewhere in the United Kingdom—and indeed also in Eire—they had better be physically separated by ceding, in agreement with Dublin, parts of

Armagh, Fermanagh and Tyrone to the Republic. The transference of Catholics north of the new frontier who opted for Irish citizenship, and of loyalists south of it who wished to move into the new Ulster, should be speedily facilitated with fully adequate compensation. But those who did remain in, or moved into, the new Ulster shall accept to be governed in the same way as their fellow-citizens in the rest of the United Kingdom, ie. by county and district councils and with full representation in the Westminster Parliament.

The new frontier would thus be more easily defensible and, in return for this cession of territory, the Government and people of Eire should be asked to give their wholehearted cooperation in eradicating those members of the two communities who have “the heart of a beast to the place of a man's heart”; and to grant us the right to pursue them across the frontier and so defeat the long-standing “no-go” area method of escaping retribution.

Meanwhile, “we are at war”; and surely every citizen of Ulster should before this have had to carry an identity card. Moreover, it has long been my view that an effective protection can be provided for the law-abiding citizen, he should be permitted to carry arms in self-defence. The murderers, Protestant and Catholic, who might think twice before entering a pub or a private house, or ambushing a bus, if they knew that every one of their potential victims was also armed. It would put a stop to the quite sickening daily spectacle of so many getting away with murder.

Yours sincerely,  
GILBERT LONGDEN,  
89 Cornwall Gardens, SW7.

## Railway conversion

From Mr Gabriel Roth

Sir, Your issue of December 17 is today, the 18th, the 19th, the 20th of British transport. On page one you reported the findings of the Hall-Smith study, that £30m a year could be saved by converting six East Anglian railway lines into roads or “busways”. On the letter page the chairman of the British Railways Board asks you to substantiate your statement that British Railways “are prepared if necessary to mislead the Civil Service”. Mr Richard Marsh may wish to comment on the following episode which, as it happens, is also about the right of way to convert a railway to a road.

In the autumn of 1966 a public inquiry was held on alternative routes for a by-pass road to relieve Esher of its A3 traffic. One of the proposals made was to convert the Guildford-Cobham-Surbiton railway line into a road that would link the Kingston and Guildford by-passes, to relieve not only Esher but also Cobham and Ripley. British Railways (as reported in The Daily Telegraph on October 6 1966) stated that the line was operated at a loss, and the Ministry of Transport thereupon instructed its inspector to refuse to entertain the proposal to convert it to a road.

However, as soon as the 1968 Transport Act allowed British Railways to claim grants for “providing specific, unreserved, special services which meet a social need”, £16.5m were claimed to support lines in London and the SE area, including the Guildford-Surbiton line, in 1969. These subsidies are still being claimed—and received.

On its own, this episode would be

## Equal pay for women

From Professor T. A. Roberts

Sir, British Universities were among the first institutions to give equal pay to their men and women teachers. This was done immediately after the Second World War. On introducing equal pay the universities also operated a system of family allowances, with grants of £50 pa for each child. Presumably this was to compensate the family man who had additional financial responsibilities to meet.

Since its introduction, two things have happened to the University family allowance scheme. First, the grant of the child allowance, introduced in the late forties, remains unchanged, despite the ravages of inflation. Secondly, these allowances were abolished some years ago for new entrants into the profession and for existing recipients on promotion to a higher grade.

The reason, one supposes, for phasing out the family allowance system whilst maintaining equal pay is the belief that the married man who is not paid employment, is adequately compensated financially for his family responsibilities both by the marriage and child allow-

## Future of colleges of education

From Mr K. G. Collier

Sir, Your leader of January 2 on the future of the colleges of education is, I believe, shortsighted and unrealistic. You rightly say that these colleges “should seek a future of their own” rather than emulate the universities and polytechnics; but in offering an analogy with the community colleges of the United States you miss your cue: the appropriate analogy would have been with the liberal arts colleges.

The best of these are characterized as far as one can generalize—by two features. The first, which they share with both polytechnics and colleges of education in England, is that they give a considerably higher priority to their teaching of the students than to their research. The second, which they share with some relatively small sections of English universities and polytechnics, is that most colleges of education are devoted to a certain climate of personal relations between staff and students: any visitor from an English college of education to a good liberal arts college in the United States finds an immediate common language of aspirations and relationships.

The fact is that when large-scale and bureaucratic organization is increasingly invading education, this country desperately needs a solid body of institutions of higher education in which the quality and climate of relations at all levels are regarded as a matter of the highest importance.

It is of course true that few colleges “could match the academic standards set by universities and polytechnics”. But when you speak of the diversion of scarce resources from already established institutions, and the “devaluation of degrees”, it is necessary to challenge your unspoken assumptions. Scarce resources of money and manpower are as economically deployed in a college of education offering a selected range of subjects as in a university or polytechnic of 5,000 or 10,000 students; and the BEd has shown itself to be just as “valuable a degree of a broad and professional education” as an honours degree in history is to the specialized type that has come to predominate in English universities.

Yours faithfully,  
K. G. COLLIER, late Principal, Ede College, Durham,  
4 Branksome Road,  
Norwich.

of little consequence, but it provides a good illustration, in miniature, of the condition of British land transport. The BEd has served the Kingston and Guildford by-passes is still absurdly inadequate for the traffic it carries; people living along it suffer heavily from through traffic; the Guildford to Surbiton railway right-of-way is reserved for trains which can utilize only a small fraction of its potential capacity, and hence needs substantial assistance from public funds; and proposals for quick, modest remedies are turned down in favour of long-term, expensive ones.

British Railways hold a unique network of roads in the right-of-way. There is evidence that substantial portions of its less-making main line network are underutilized and suitable for conversion to limited access (motorway style) roads. Conversion of appropriate lines would allow the diversion of main trunk roads from congested all-purpose roads to motorway-style ones, with consequent savings in accidents, fuel, environmental pollution, and other costs. Furthermore, railway workers who now face an uncertain future could be offered continuing employment in an expanding industry—road transport.

It is to be hoped that Mr Crossland's overall transport policy review will put the onus on the railways to show why they should be allowed to continue to hold on to scarce resources that could be used more productively by others.

Yours faithfully,  
GABRIEL ROTH,  
4815 Falsone Avenue,  
Chevy Chase,  
Maryland 20815 USA,  
December 31.

## The art of work

From Sir Gordon Russell

Sir, All who care for quality will be pleased to read the Minister for the Arts' denial that he said “luxury goods have no social relevance” (December 30). But the original VAT now levied on crafts, which have a fine record of excellence in design and workmanship leave one with doubts as to how genuine beliefs in quality are in high places.

When Mr Jenkins adds: “I have supported the crafts financially and in every other way more than any previous Minister for the Arts” can he have forgotten that less than six years ago his predecessor in office, Lord Eccles, set up the Crafts Advisory Committee and for the first time ever gave it a substantial government grant.

This was the only solid encouragement that had passed craftsmanhood in the last century. It was the personal interest and enthusiasm Lord Eccles gave to launch the committee. His informed critical appreciation of fine design and workmanship and his deep knowledge of the many obstacles which bear such work in a machine age were of immense value. They should not be passed over so lightly.

Yours sincerely,  
GORDON RUSSELL,  
Kingscombe,  
Chipping Campden,  
Gloucestershire.

## Guarding the French language against Franglais

From Mrs C. I. Macdonald

Sir, Before your readers let rip on the French language at the bottom right hand corner of your correspondence column, may I be allowed a few remarks?

1. Guile-dee (your third leader, January 6) is a good old French word, used by, among others, St Simon, and indeed, by your leader's authority, Rousseau himself. Voltaire protested against its use, to no effect.

2. Ticker is said to have been first used in 1727. It appears in the Journal des Débats in 1835 (I am only quoting dictionaries easily available in this country). It had undoubtedly been in common use for many years before the last war, as in ticker tape, qual, de metro, carnet de tickets, etc.

3. If I have rightly understood the gist of Mr Levin's article, January 7, others may have interpreted it differently. The claims that the French language belongs to the whole world. True, everyone is free to enjoy it, use it, or massacre it. Only the French, however, are competent judges of its evolution, a mysterious process. To try to alter the course of this evolution by law is bound to result in absurdities; so was trying to define in court the boundaries between what is pornographic, obscene, shocking, or merely objectionable.

Is it worth trying? M Giscard

d'Estrange and his ministers are not naive bullies. They are trying to cope with a problem which never arose before this century, ie. that more words are now printed and broadcast by the literate than by the literate.

Yours sincerely,  
CYNTHIA MACDONALD,  
14 Linton Road,  
Oxford,  
January 3.

From Mr Stephen Corrin  
Sir, “Comment dit-on en français ‘obviously’?” “Ouvieusement” cried one of my class. I was so taken by this spontaneous coinage that, as an ardent fan of Franglais, I encouraged its use year after year among the French “assistants” who came under my aegis; so that by now (much to the annoyance of M Bae) it is probably quite widespread in several regions of France.

Yours sincerely,  
STEPHEN CORRIN,  
10 Russell Gardens, NW11,  
January 8.

From Professor Bernard Georges  
Monsieur, Vous allez sans doute croire invariablement pendant lorsque je signale que, dans son article sur la loufoquerie qu'est la loi Bae, Monsieur Levin a fait de non-brutes erreurs. Cependant, il se

peut bien que la plupart aient été faites dans le feu de la composition, et je tiens à féliciter Monsieur Levin d'avoir fait preuve de savoir-maintenir la langue française d'une façon si prometteuse. Que Monsieur Levin se débarrasse ou non d'un diplôme GCE (A Level), je le prie instamment de songer à la possibilité de s'inscrire comme étudiant de français à ce collège où il pourra suivre des cours relevant au DIPLE, BA ou BEd. Ces titres offrent d'excellents débouchés: le professeur, le journaliste, l'agréé. Monsieur, mes salutations distinguées,  
BERNARD GEORGES,  
Professeur de Français,  
Bingley College of Education,  
Bingley,  
Yorkshire,  
January 7.

From Mr Jerrald Alexander  
Sir, What would Giscard think of an announcement I heard some years ago on a French cross-channel ferry where they announced in French the opening of “Le Snack-bar” and in English the opening of “The Buffet”?

Yours sincerely,  
JERRALD ALEXANDER,  
43 41, Wimpole Street, W1,  
January 7.







## SPORT

## Football

## Rangers capable of upsetting odds at Old Trafford

By Geoffrey Green  
Football Correspondent

After the various upsets in the FA Cup replays during the week when the competition once again emphasized its distinctive character and its disdain for league status, it is a return to the steady grind for points this afternoon.

In these terms there are four contests that could have a considerable influence on the future. In each case, as the saying is, four points are virtually at stake. At the top of the pool is Manchester United against Queens' Park Rangers. Both have their sights on the title, or, failing that, a sufficiently high position in the table to earn them a place in next season's UEFA Cup. United, of course, have a chance for Europe through the FA Cup.

Manchester United this season have again brought a refreshing attitude to their game, reminiscent of their salad days and far removed from their destructive, renegade efforts to avoid relegation two or three years ago. They are back to their original style, and their main strength is in their attack. But now a new wind is blowing through the club and it is a attacking, creative wind. Using two wingers, Coppell and Hill, and playing 4-2-4 even away from home, they are driving at their opponents.

United's style is reflected in their large following which outstrips all others, even Liverpool and Aston Villa.

Today, however, will be a test for them. Rangers, lying fifth but only three points behind Liverpool and United, are a team to be confident of lifting the prize in what promises to be a photo finish. They are a team to be confident of lifting the prize in what promises to be a photo finish.

While United—unbeaten since the return of Stepien to goal at the end of November—will be unbeaten for the seventh consecutive game, Rangers will be without their England winger Thomas, injured in the Cup de Gaulle.

## Hockey

## Blackheath have little to fear from Hawks

Two training weekends and a visual match bring together an exciting contest of hockey as, some seven weeks ago, the two teams met in the first round of the international series. An England side of 21 players of 30 have been named to play Blackheath at Woodhall Spa tomorrow.

Paul Smith, who needs no introduction, will not be at Bishop's Cleeve as he is away in the United States on business. On the competitive side the activities of the Great Britain party in the Olympics Games have been cut to one match, against the Club tomorrow (12.30).

In the Ladies' League, the struggle for supremacy seems to have resolved into a tussle among three clubs, Blackheath, Southdown and Slough. Blackheath being the unbeaten side in the competition. Blackheath should have no apprehension about keeping their lead as they are away today toawks who are in a twenty-two match with a percentage of only 19.5.

Beckenham, whose fortunes have been in a recent slump, should be the best out of Southgate, who are surprisingly held to a 2-2 away last Saturday at St Albans. Though, who have strong resources, attack and defence should have a difficult time of it.

The position at the bottom of the table is unaltered with Midhurst, Cambridge and Hampton, struggling for points. Hampton do have not won a game yet in the League and are in a desperate search for points. Mid-Surrey at London University play in the League tomorrow.

The senior division tournament event has been eliminated from the calendar this year, the opportunity seeing at least one match at this level presents itself at Woodhall Spa tomorrow.

## Weekend fixtures

Kick-off 2.0 unless stated.

## First division

Sheff Wed v Aston Villa  
Sheff Wed v Wolverhampton  
Sheff Wed v Sheffield Wed  
Sheff Wed v Tottenham  
Sheff Wed v Stoke

## Second division

Blackburn v Southampton  
Blackburn v Charlton  
Bristol v Luton  
Bristol v Reading  
Bristol v Watford

## Third division

Sheff Wed v Bury  
Sheff Wed v Brighton  
Sheff Wed v Mansfield  
Sheff Wed v Wrexham (2.15)  
Sheff Wed v Crystal Palace

## Fourth division

Bournemouth v Bradford City  
Bournemouth v Torquay  
Cambridge Utd v Swans  
Crewe v Doncaster  
Lincoln v Hartlepool

## Scottish Cup

Second round  
Aberdeen v Glasgow Univ  
Cowdenbeath v Selkirk  
Forfar v Meadowbank  
Forfar v Morton  
Forfar v Stirling Albion

## Scottish premier division

Aberdeen v Dundee  
Dundee v Hearts  
Dundee v Hibernian  
Dundee v Motherwell  
Dundee v Rangers

## Scottish first division

Clyde v Morton  
East Fife v Partick Th  
Hamilton v Dundee  
Kilmarnock v Dundee  
Kilmarnock v Stirling Albion

Queens of South v Falkirk  
St Mirren v Aberdeen

Southend v Ipswich  
Southend v QPR  
Southend v Manchester C  
Southend v Everton  
Southend v Burnley  
Southend v Leicester

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## Tennis Additional incentives for Bradnam

[illegible]

## Market Rasen programme

[Television (IBA): 1.45, 2.15 and 2.45 races]  
12.15 GRASSY HURDLE (Handicap: £413: 2m)

[illegible]

Wengen, Switzerland, Jan. 9: The 1980 Winter Olympic Games came to a dramatic close today as Klammer won his last two races to winning his last two World Cup races on the Lauberhorn course here, finally triumphed today when he came ahead of more fancied skiers.

Plank, 21, the runner-up in the opening World Cup downhill race, burst from the start, took the lead, hurdled down a shortened Lauberhorn track at speeds at times in excess of 100 mph, and came from the Austrian Franz Klammer and Switzerland's Bernhard Russi. Klammer, the reigning World Cup downhill champion, and Russi, Sapporo Winter Olympic Games inborn prodigal, finished 3.45 kilometers (2.1 mile) course, plummeted at about 800 meters of its full length.

Russi, second to Klammer in the corresponding race last year, said he could believe the feat of Swiss Klammer, who in 1974, showed just that vital bit more control on the tortuous first half of the race than he did in the one fifth of a second faster than Klammer who was fractionally better than Russi.

Plank was recorded an average speed of 96.5 kilometers an hour (about 60 mph), probably owed his win—his first in a World Cup

dowhill since December 19/79—by a margin of 1.1 seconds to David Irwin, of Canada, winner of this season's downhill at Schladming, Austria.

Irwin, who desired to lose his balance at the foot of a jump in the upper portion of the track, avoided a fall by a hair's breadth, falling with a miraculous recovery, as he slipped on entering the final S-bend. Irwin, who set the fastest time of 1:19.3, then came to the course, appeared to falter twice, crossed a boundary fence and bounced the finishing line.

Of the 31 skiers, finishing in 1:18th.

The Canadian pair, which had been in the form this season, again did well, with entrants 16th, 10th, 11th and 12th positions.

**AUSTIN'S DOWNHILL.** A. N. P. (Canada) 1:20.9, 11th; G. S. (Austria) 1:21.0, 12th; J. G. (Austria) 1:21.1, 13th; J. G. (Austria) 1:21.2, 14th; J. G. (Austria) 1:21.3, 15th; J. G. (Austria) 1:21.4, 16th; J. G. (Austria) 1:21.5, 17th; J. G. (Austria) 1:21.6, 18th; J. G. (Austria) 1:21.7, 19th; J. G. (Austria) 1:21.8, 20th; J. G. (Austria) 1:21.9, 21st; J. G. (Austria) 1:22.0, 22nd; J. G. (Austria) 1:22.1, 23rd; J. G. (Austria) 1:22.2, 24th; J. G. (Austria) 1:22.3, 25th; J. G. (Austria) 1:22.4, 26th; J. G. (Austria) 1:22.5, 27th; J. G. (Austria) 1:22.6, 28th; J. G. (Austria) 1:22.7, 29th; J. G. (Austria) 1:22.8, 30th; J. G. (Austria) 1:22.9, 31st.

**WORLD CUP PLACINGS 'In skis**

1. G. S. (Austria) 1:20.9, 11th; G. S. (Austria) 1:21.0, 12th; J. G. (Austria) 1:21.1, 13th; J. G. (Austria) 1:21.2, 14th; J. G. (Austria) 1:21.3, 15th; J. G. (Austria) 1:21.4, 16th; J. G. (Austria) 1:21.5, 17th; J. G. (Austria) 1:21.6, 18th; J. G. (Austria) 1:21.7, 19th; J. G. (Austria) 1:21.8, 20th; J. G. (Austria) 1:21.9, 21st; J. G. (Austria) 1:22.0, 22nd; J. G. (Austria) 1:22.1, 23rd; J. G. (Austria) 1:22.2, 24th; J. G. (Austria) 1:22.3, 25th; J. G. (Austria) 1:22.4, 26th; J. G. (Austria) 1:22.5, 27th; J. G. (Austria) 1:22.6, 28th; J. G. (Austria) 1:22.7, 29th; J. G. (Austria) 1:22.8, 30th; J. G. (Austria) 1:22.9, 31st.

(Switzerland) 1:22.9, 31st.

[illegible][illegible]

	Depth (cm)	Conditions	off Piste	Weather (5 pm)
Grass	10	Piste	Poor	Sunny
Worn patches				
Davos	30	Good	Varied	Fine
Lower south facing slopes icy	35			
North	20	Poor	Crust	Fine
Worn patches on lower slopes				
Seas Fee	18	Fair	Varied	Fine
Hard worn pistes				
Seefeld	5	Fair	Varied	Fine
Some good skiing available				
Val Isère	25	Poor	Varied	Fine
Some upper slopes still good				
Villars	5	Poor	Heavy	Fine
South facing slopes bare	15			
Wengen	20	Fair	Crust	Fine
Lower slopes worn	60			

In the above snow reports, supplied by representatives of the SLL Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper slopes. The following reports have been received from other sources.

[illegible]

# Anaconda takes a gamble

Great Britain II is leading the second leg of the *Financial Times* clipper race, Sydney to England. The 1,300 miles from Cape Horn, which she hopes to round next Friday. The British Post Office Steam Navigation Company's *Great Britain* is still leading the race, but the *Anaconda* is reported to indicate that the gap was being narrowed.

*Anaconda* is making the gamble by cutting the corner going further south, nearer to the Great Circle Route and the shortest from Cape Horn, but could encounter considerable hazards from ice, cold, and poor weather.

Great II, the launch yacht, was back in Sydney Harbour waiting for a new ruler to be built and fitted. Her skipper's intention is to sail out of January 16.

race of the world Finn class sailing championship series was declared void when protest against the race committee was upheld.

Fanner, of New Zealand, was first over the line but was disqualified with many other competitors on the grounds that they had not completed the course correctly, lodged a protest and the international jury sustained it. The championship will now be decided by the best results of the better fire performances counting. The final race will be held tomorrow.

Christopher Law, of Britain, placed fourth with 8.7 points for his best four races and now appears to be in a virtually unbeatable position. Second in the overall standings

Britain, third.

In the race only two of the starters rounded the last mark before "correct" time. The mistake was realized, 40 p.o.tors in this international jury championship retraced their courses from the finishing line back to the start. The time was awarded, providentially, Bennett, of the United States, second place to Eusnetop, France, both of whom round the mark correctly. The British, who led the bunch that retraced their paths to cross finishing line a second time, awarded third place.

ANCHORAGE STANDINGS: C. H. Fanner, N.Z., 8.7; Christopher Law, U.K., 7.7; S. J. Farrer, U.K., 6.9; R. G. Bennett, U.S.A., 6.7; Mervyn (UK), 4.3—Jagacities.

vilds were today reported to be hampering the progress of Kialoa III, the American ketch leading the 1,570 nautical mile Hobart to Auckland yacht race.

This morning, Kialoa was 104 miles from the north-eastern tip of New Zealand's south island, having sailed only 180 miles in the last 24 hours.

The 73ft ketch Windward Passage was reported to have found better conditions and had closed to within 23 miles of the leader. The New Zealand yachts, Buccaneer, Curtilban and Quamo were next, between 60 and 150 miles behind Kialoa.—REUTERS

Cape Town, Jan. 9.—A flotilla of 130 boats will set sail from here tomorrow on what could be the last of the Cape-to-Rio yacht races.

The Brazilian Government's decision last week to close Rio to the yachtsmen of South Africa's partitioned policy dismayed the 4,000 yachtsmen taking part.

They went joyfully back to preparing their yachts when the decision was made that the boats from here were a strong hint from the Brazilians that they may bar future Cape-to-Rio races.

For the moment the problems have been forgotten. Thousands of yachtsmen are in Cape Town inspecting the brightly painted yachts at their moorings before setting off on the 3,600 nautical miles race.

The favourite is a French yacht, Eric Tabarly's Pen Duick VI, which was first home and handicapped winner of the first leg of the Atlantic Triangle from St. Angelo to Cape Town, and then from there to Portsmouth, England.

Second on handicap in the first leg was another French entry, the Karsen, which broke a mast at the weekend. Andre Vismet, the skipper, is expected to start a smart emergency operation to fit a new mast and hopes to be ready for the start of the 16-nation race.

When the cannon fires the yachts will start at 10-minute intervals, with the 26th date one craft, including Pen Duick VI, the first to unfurl their sails.

The fastest boat should take about 19 days and the slowest up to 37 days.—Reuter.



## Further fall recorded in standards of living

the second quarter of last year. Thus living standards, on this basis were back in the late summer to where they had been two years earlier.

Yet in spite of this, people seem to be saving a very high proportion of their income.

In the third quarter savings reached 13.7 per cent of personal disposable income, against 13 per cent in the second quarter.

## Stores trade sags after earlier sales success

cess: uns to enable it to be un-  
velled on schedule.

## £1m Scottish coal search

But turnover has also risen sharply. Thursday saw equity trading of just under £100m, the highest daily total since September.

He said: "The very marked increase in our imports linked with the recovery of economic activity in our country is not

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## ELF-Erap lin

The Government also made clear it intended the new group be first and foremost a national industrial company with responsibility for its own profits and development.—Reuter.

GDP					
Gross domestic product at constant factor cost : (1970=100) and seasonally adjusted.					
	Based on expenditure	Based on income	Based on output	Average of three estimates	
1972	103.9	103.5	104.6	104.0	
1973	108.4	108.7	110.4	109.5	
1974	110.5	109.3	109.6	109.8	
1975	101.8	99.1	101.5	100.8	
1976	104.4	103.8	104.5	104.2	
1977	103.8	104.2	105.3	104.4	
1978	105.8	106.9	107.7	106.6	
1979	111.1	108.1	110.8	110.0	
1980	109.0	109.1	109.9	109.3	
1981	109.4	108.5	108.8	108.9	
1982	106.2	109.1	110.6	108.3	
1983	107.1	103.6	107.5	108.1	
1984	107.2	114.4	110.0	112.0	
1985	113.7	113.0	111.2	112.3	
1986	110.1	112.4	108.7	111.1	
1987	110.4	108.8	110.0	109.6	
1988	108.3	106.5	107.2	107.3	
1989	108.0	105.7	106.6	106.8	

The sales would be spread over four years and, at the same time, another 25 million ounces of IMF gold would be restituted directly to IMF members in

the IMF gold sales. He decided that the BIS could then sell this gold to any of its customers if it pleased and that, of course, the BIS could then sell the gold to any of its central banks among its customers.

At de Clercq said the move-

Another agreement reached by the ministers forces countries to make their currencies available to the IMF for use in transactions and opera-

Closure of the factory, which has a production capacity of 1 million tubes a year, although present output is running at 350,000, will mean the loss of 1,300 jobs.

Imp Cool Gas 8p to 35p  
Linread 3p to 38p

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Equities soared to their best levels for more than two years. Gift-edged securities scored some of their highest-ever gains as two new "top" stocks were

Rises	
Akroyd & Son	12p to 213p
Barclays Bank	8p to 320p
B&S	71p to 221p
Bury & Macao	5p to 33p
Caravans Int	24p to 25p
Gen Acc	5p to 172p
Johnson Matt	10p to 383p

Falls	
Bracken Moles	5p to 136p
De Biers Int	16p to 384p
Elstburg Gold	5p to 170p
ERF	1p to 27p
Hamersby	23p to 190p
Low Cool Gas	5p to 306p
Luxcrete	5p to 38p

Equities soared to their best levels for more than two years.

Gift-edged securities scored some of their highest-ever gains as two

**Ford stores cars**

vehicles are being stored at the Ford plant.

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The Times index:  $165.16 \div 3.53$   
The FT index:  $461.6 \div 11.7$

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Greece Dr	20.50	75.50
Hongkong S	19.47	18.00
Italy Lr	1515.00	1170.00
Japan Yn	645.00	620.00
Netherlands Gld	5.55	5.55
Norway Kr	11.55	11.20
Portugal Esc	69.00	60.00
S Africa Rd	2.05	1.58

	buys	sales
Australia &	1.65	1.62
Austria Swi	32.29	31.74
Belgium Fr	28.79	28.79
Canada	2.14	2.05
Denmark Kr	1.50	12.41
Finland Mkk	8.20	7.75
France Fr	9.25	8.95
Germany DM	10.00	10.00
Greece Dr	50.50	75.50
Hongkong S	10.40	10.00
Italy Lit	151.00	117.00
Netherlands	645.00	639.00
Netherlands Gld	1.00	0.53
Norway Kr	11.55	11.00
Portugal Esc	69.00	69.00
S. Africa R	12.06	1.58
Spain Ptas	12.75	11.00
Sweden Kr	1.00	1.00
Switzerland Fr	5.75	5.45
U.S.	2.67	2.02
Yugoslavia Dnr	41.50	37.00

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Bank Base Rates Table 27

Unit Test:







EDITED BY MARGARET STONE

## FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

## Investor's week

## Stores after the sales • Outlook for the markets

At 3.30 pm yesterday the equity market was looking confident, with share prices rising easily over the expected boot of profit-taking as the trading account ended. But the surge of activity in the gilt-edged market after the disclosure of terms for the new tax saw share prices rising sharply in "after-hours" dealings.

A late calculation put the FT index at 401.6, the first time since November 1973, to exceed the gain on the account at a handsome 10.5 per cent.

The small rally in retailing shares since Christmas probably owes more to sentiment than to any fundamental reappraisal of the sector's investment merits. Leading non-food stores groups which expressed profound

sloam, during the important December sales period seemed more cheerful when their sales dropped, an unusually large flood of customers at the new year. Against the market, which has been firm since Christmas, store shares have managed a rise of perhaps just under 5 per cent.

It is difficult, however, to see these shares outperforming the rest during 1976. By normal Christmas standards sales were poor, with volume down by perhaps 3 or 4 per cent.

Leading retailers such as W. H. Smith, which relies on its Christmas traffic for a large slice of annual profits, were found to be extremely gloomy last November, when Christmas sales were expected to be better than the John Lewis Partnership figures, showing rises of around

12 per cent for the key weeks of December, indicate that matters, while not good, did not turn out as bad as feared. But it was the response to the sales season that cheered up the retailers' share prices. It should be remembered, though, that with cut prices and low margins, profits will not benefit that much.

Groups such as Debenhams and Woolworth, former Cinderellas of the sector, have obviously done well, but that does much to the long-promised recovery from a very low profits base.

Over the rest of the year the post-Christmas season promises to be slow, with further volume declines. Although business might pick up later in the year, retail shares do not look like outperforming the rest of the market in 1976.

Investors could hardly be wished for a happier send-off to the new year. Both gilt and equity have pushed ahead strongly and there seems every reason for investors to start 1976 with more confidence than they started 1975.

Ironical though it may be, such confidence needs, however, to be qualified. For though 1975 may have begun under a cloud, it quickly turned into one of the best bull markets of all time. And what must be clear is that 1976 is not going to be a repeat of the performance this time round.

The FT index, now at the 400 level, is not, even in this strange world, going to be hovering around the 800 mark come Christmas—nor, for that matter, 700 or even 600.

In short, while there should be money still to be made in both equities and gilts, this is going to be a year when selectivity and timing will be appreciably more important. For instance, while there were fairly few shares last year that failed to double, I would suggest that there will be a considerable number this year that will fail to show private investors much of a return after allowing for dealings costs.

In more general terms, a point may well be reached when great strength of mind will be needed to take an objective

view of the kind of wild euphoria that may well signal the end of the bull market.

That, of course, is to assume in the first place, as many institutional investors appear to be assuming, that the market will rise steadily towards the 500 mark in the first six to nine months of the year, peaking in the end of the summer.

But while the market in its present mood may well treat the 400 mark as a ceiling for pausing to reassess what the future may hold, the key to the market remains the trend in the United States economy. The indications of American economic recovery are now much more promising—this is being reflected in the strong performance of Wall Street—but any further setbacks of the kind seen last autumn would certainly lead to a temporary reaction in both the American and British stock markets.

The importance of the American economic revival for Britain is plain. Given the need for the British Government to continue to pursue disinflationary policies internally, the only way to lift the economy out of recession is going to be exported growth on the back of a revival in world trade. Without this either the economy will remain in prolonged recession or the Government will be forced to abandon its fight against inflation—neither alter-

native being good for equities and only the former for gilts. On the assumption, however, that all goes reasonably well, the second key factor, from the point of view of inflation and corporate profits, is going to be the next stage of the prices and incomes policy. The main requirement here is that the next round of incomes policy, albeit more flexible than the existing policy, brings the overall rate of increase down significantly from the 10 per cent rate that the £6 limit represented.

If this, too, is achieved, then the present reasoning that the FT index should be above 450 by mid-summer and long gilts yielding around 12 per cent should be justified. The question then would be how much is there left to go for? The determining factors are likely to be, first, any upturn in interest rates as economic revival forces up the demand for money and, secondly, the ability of the equity market to absorb what may well be a far larger spate of rights issues than at present expected.

Advice at this stage: run profits on existing holdings for the time being; keep fresh investments to special situations, exercising great restraint; buy only when the market is running into bouts of profit-taking.

## Stock markets

## Over 400 as gilts score record gains

Inspired by another prime rate cut and, more important, the terms of two new "tap" stock gilt-edged securities issued the week in a blaze of glory on the London stock market yesterday, the long bond, gains of up to £2.50 were recorded.

The effect on equities was startling and, against the odds, Do not be discouraged if International Timber's interim results next week show little, or no growth. Recovery from losses in the last second half is slow, but doubled profits of £2.6m for the year to March are on the cards. The shares rose 3p to 103p in a firm sector.

The FT index managed to close the account over the 400 mark—the first time it has been there since November, 1973.

What was remarkable was a gain of no less than 7.1 per cent between 3 pm and the close, the final figure of 401.6 being a gain of 11.1 on the day, 16.8 over the week and an impressive 38.2 points since the start of the recovery.

Dealers said that had the final calculation been made half an hour before it was the index would have been a point or two higher.

Gilts had one of the strongest daily rises ever recorded. The two new "tap" stock announcements were interpreted favourably, with the authorities' decision to place a "tap" at 1990 rather than 1995 or later spurring a massive advance in the very long bond.

In the late afternoon activity in some long-dated stock was so frantic that spreads of up to 1 point were being quoted by jobbers.

In the end price rises of 2. or 2.1 points seem to have emerged, although "medium" and "long" gilts were less strong, with gains confined to 1 or 1.1 point.

The advance was beaten by the very late dealings in government bonds. Both £35p and £37p were later by 7p, while Rank "A" addition encouraged by errandmen's hopes and expanding results, firmed by 8p to 173p. More modestly, Beggan 352p, Bowater 183p, and Joots 148p

all approved by 4p, but Unilever was unable to participate in all this and lost 4p to 45p.

The wake of Thursday's rally, Allied proved to be in demand on the breweries pitch and gained 4p to 74p. But the share was not alone in this.

Scottish & Newcastle up the same amount to 64p and Amatin, with revived talk of bid, better by 4p to 60p.

Television rental shares also saw some good demand, the best being Henry Wigfall up by 10p to 180p and Granada 2p to 75p.

For some time now market men have considered that one of the building industry companies was likely to come with a rights issue and this day came with a call by Armitage Shanks which was accompanied by forecasts. The shares put on 5p to 76p.

Blackwood Hodge again proved strong and firmed another 8p to 157p.

Morgan-Grampian, whose chief executive, Mr. G. V. Sherrin, denies any takeover talk, were in progress, were steady at 55p. Neither Mr. Sherrin or the other major shareholder, board member, Mr.

M. M. Geffen, had sold their shares. Equity turnover on January 8 was £151.5m (21,793 bargains). According to Exchange Tele-

The shares in Lampa Securities have risen by about 20 per cent over the past week on persistent buying in a thin market. Speculators expect confirmation early next week of market hints of a management reshuffle at Lampa, where Mr. Malcolm Horsman is chairman.

graph, active stocks yesterday were BP, ICI, Brooke Bond new, Barclays Bank, Rank A, Boots, Dislures, Town & City, Woolworth, Marks & Spencer, Dunlop, Bowater, Inchcape, Fisons, Armitage Shanks, Comp Air, Scottish & Newcastle, Lankoro and Stonehill.

## Latest dividends

Company (and par value)	Ord	Year	Pay	Year's	Prev
Alia Inv Int	1.4	23/2	—	—	3.45
Amber Day (10p) Int	0.72	27/4	—	—	1.37
Bett Brothers (10p) Int	1.15	2/5	2.77	—	2.39
Cray Electronic (10p) Int	0.5	N/A	—	—	1.3
Empress Services (10p) Int	0.28	21/2	—	—	0.45
Flexello Castors (25p) Int	1.31	—	—	—	1.1
Glenair (25p) Int	0.81	9/2	0.65	—	0.56
John H. Lowe (25p) Int	2.3	2.1	—	—	3.17
John Waddington (25p) Int	1.31	16/2	—	—	5.46

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in business news dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross, multiply the net dividend by 1.54.

## Armitage Shanks tests the market

The shares of Armitage Shanks climbed 5p to 76p on the news that the company's new rights issue is coming to the market to raise £2.14m. The terms of the rights issue are 4.1m shares at one-for-four at 52p.

The board says over the past three years it has spent about £2.7m on big projects. Some of this money has come from the company's own resources, but the balance has been borrowed facilities at the moment are adequate—last financial year borrowings reached almost £4m—it believes the time is right for reducing reliance on short-term borrowings.

On completion of the deal, Raytime will make an unconditional offer for the remainder of the same terms, putting a value of some £770,000 on the company. The offer is subject to the company's board seeking to retain the Highgate listing. The agreement is conditional on obtaining all the necessary consents not later than April 2.

net income fell from £1.9m to £1.3m. The net dividend is £1.05m again.

Hutchison sells Highgate stake

The holding company for the United Kingdom interests of Hutchison International, John D. Hutchison (UK), has agreed to the sale of its holding of 3m (83.3 per cent) of Highgate Optical & Industrial at 33p a share cash or a privately-owned London company, Bayfine.

On completion of the deal, Bayfine will make an unconditional offer for the remainder of the same terms, putting a value of some £770,000 on the company. The offer is subject to the company's board seeking to retain the Highgate listing. The agreement is conditional on obtaining all the necessary consents not later than April 2.

electrical interests are "no longer profitable" and will probably be phased out by the end of March. Earlier last year the group acquired P2S security services and Baymark Services, and both are expected to improve their profits in the second half.

Amber Day set fair

Further satisfactory progress is predicted by Amber Day Holdings, the London-based holding group, as a rise for the year to October 31 of 12 per cent to £484,000. Sales went up from £5.7m to £5.6m. Earnings a share are 4.58p to 3.76p, while the dividend is raised from 1.12p to 2.63p. Last year profits reached a record £846,000 for the full year.

Trading was good throughout the first half and order books are strong.

Profits and 100pc scrip cheer Bett Bros

The shares in Bett Brothers, the Dundee-based building and public works contractors, rose 6p to 80p yesterday on news that shareholders are to receive a dividend of 4.26p gross, against 3.85p. Pre-tax profits in the year to August 31 rose by 26 per cent to £1.74m. Those are before adding profits of £445,000 from exceptional land deals to the 1974 figures.

The result is in line with the earlier forecast that profits would end at about £1.7m after a rise of only 1.6 per cent to £1.66m in the first half. The second half year duly obliged with a 52 per cent jump in profits to £1.02m—the first time that £1m has been earned in only six months.

Flexello rises 13pc

In spite of a big fall in new orders in the second half of the year the pre-tax profits of Flexello Castors & Wheels rose 13 per cent to a record £542,000 in the year to October 3.

Turnover rose slightly from £4.59m to £4.7m, even though orders fell. The dividend rises from 3.14p gross to 3.46p.

Mr. S. Menko, the chairman, reports that new orders have recently shown signs of picking up. He hopes that turnover will grow but he says that whether or not it will depend on how well inflation is checked.

Norseman suspended

The shares in Norseman Gold Mines are suspended in Perth. This reflects uncertainty arising from the adjourned annual meeting and the composition of the Norseman board. All Australian exchanges have asked to suspend trading in the securities immediately.

DEUTSCHE BP

Hamburg—Deutsche BP has bought for an undisclosed price a 20 per cent holding in the Aschaffenburg Citysparkasse (GmbH). The bank is to offer international transport companies the facility of being able to refund airfares by buses without paying cash.—Reuter.

AREEY LIFE ASSURANCE

New annual premiums received for 1975 (£1.7m) were £1.4m (£4.2m) was for pensions. New unit-linked single premiums were £18.1m (£14.9m). Twenty-five considerations and surrenders policies totalled a further £2.5m (£2.6m) inclusive of Guaranteed Income Bonds. New sums assured were £38m (£37.4m).

ALSA INV. TRUST

Gross revenue before tax for half-year to November 30, £195,000 (£198,000). Net asset value of each 25p ordinary share at November 30, 105.6p (52p 12 months earlier).

TOBACCO SECURITIES

Tobacco Securities Trust, has raised the final dividend from 12.40p gross to 13.47p for the year ended October 31. This halves the full-year total to 17.50p compared with 16.31p. Pre-tax profits improved slightly from £5.3m to £5.4m. This bettered the board's interim forecast of second half profits of around the first half's £2.1m.

## Cray Elects to rally after setback

It seems that not too much can be done in the way of a retreat of Cray Electronics. In line with the board's warning two months ago the group slipped in the first half year to October 31, despite a turnover of £1.5m. Pre-tax profits fell from £252,000 to £219,000, and earnings a share dropped from 1.8p to 1.55p.

On the brighter side, the board is confident of a much better outcome for the full year, reflecting presumably the overhang in the share before. Pre-tax profits in the year to April 30, 1975, jumped from £151,000 to £517,000. The interim dividend has been restored with a payment of 0.77p gross, against a single payment of 2p.

## Secrets of growth elude D. C. Thomson

Much as the board expected, the Dundee-based printer and publisher, fell yet again, this time from £2.8m to £2.2m at the trading level in the year to March 31. The group includes Evening Post, Telegraph, the Sunday Post and a clutch of children's comics ranging from the Beano to Dandy. The Sunday Post has featured in the Guinness Book of Records as the newspaper which achieves the closest to saturation.

On the investment front income slipped from £1.8m to £1.7m. The group has a 24.8 per cent stake in Southern United, a 27.1 per cent holding in Clyde Paper. The

## Briefly

HUDSON'S BAY OIL

Hudson's Bay Oil & Gas has concluded arrangements to buy the interest held by Clark Oil Producing in lands underlying the Beathorn oil discovery on Cameron Island. Hudson's Bay Oil said the acquisition amounts to about 208,000 net permit acres and includes a 5 per cent working interest in the lands underlying the Beathorn discovery.—AP-Dow Jones.

ROHR INDUSTRIES

Chula Vista, California—Rohr Industries reported a net loss of \$22.9m for the first quarter ended November 2 and cited write-offs and cost escalation.—AP-Dow Jones.

WINTERBOTTOM TRUST

Net revenue before tax for year to November 30, £254,000 (£233,000). Total dividend, 5.39p gross (4.96p).

## Speedwell barren

Gear Case, turned a Speedwell £41,000 into a net loss of £44,000 for the year to July 31. There is no dividend, against 0.62p. Turnover value rose a bit, from £1.02m to £1.17m. The 1974 profit figures included a net special credit of £25,000. This represents a reversal of provision for losses in a subsidiary made in an earlier year from the sale of freehold premises.

## Reasons for Brown Boveri Kent 'rights'

A rise in turnover by volume in the current half year and better profit margins are behind Brown Boveri Kent's £2.1m rights issue. The United Kingdom Government, which owns 12.27 per cent of the capital, has not said whether or not it will take up all or any of its entitlement. Bank Organisation, owing 9.9 per cent, will not take up its entitlement. If the United Kingdom Government fails to take up its ration and the holders of the remaining 51 per cent of BSK do like to exercise their control will go to Switzerland.

## Empress retrenches

The pre-tax profits of Empress Services (Holdings), the Northampton-based contract cleaner, slipped from £88,000 to £74,000 in the first six months to last September 30. The interim dividend goes down from 0.41p to 0.30p. Turnover went up from £1.3m to £1.7m.

Mr. J. F. Nash, chairman, says trading continues to be difficult, but the company's cleaning activities are operating at a profit.

## Provincial cities trust

Provincial cities trust for half year to November 30 dropped from £88,000 to £40,000. Dividend slips from 0.78p to 0.73p.

## ANSTON HOLDINGS

Turnover for half year to October 31, £495,000 (£276,000). Pre-tax profit, £75,000 (£45,000). Dividend 0.15p (0.74p).

## A. H. Rowden

Alexander Rowden offer for Balfour Beatty drew mild acceptance of 3.6m shares, about 93 per cent, and has been declared unconditional.

## HELIAR BAR

Helicar Bar is to take a 50 per cent holding in Cooper's, a limited of Perth. As part of the arrangement, Mr. Cooper will retain his shares and will remain as managing director.

## P. &amp; O. GELLS FREIGHT COMPANIES

Two subsidiary companies of P. & O. Freight Forwarders—Higgs Transport and Higgs Air Agency—have been sold to Mercury Airfreight International, an offshoot

## Maple wants Trust Deed eased and loan limit up

By Ronald Pullen

Counting problems over the development of its Tottenham Court Road schemes have forced Maple Macowards, the retail stores and property investment group put together by Mr. Oliver Jessel, to seek the approval of shareholders and raise the company's borrowing limits to £22m. Holders of the 94 per cent unsecured loan stock 1998/2002 are also to be asked to ease the conditions of the Trust Deed for a 1 per cent rise in coupon to 10 1/2 per cent.

With provisions against other assets, this is likely to amount to £2m which, with the rise in borrowings to £17.4m at the end of last year, could put the company in breach of its borrowing limit. This is faced at twice the current level of £10m and amounted to £22.1m in the last balance sheet. Shareholders will be asked to approve £22m.

To facilitate the restructuring of the company, stockholders are being asked to amend the terms of the loan stock's Trust Deed. Provided approval is obtained, the company's bankers, headed by Morgan Grenfell, are prepared to continue their financial support.

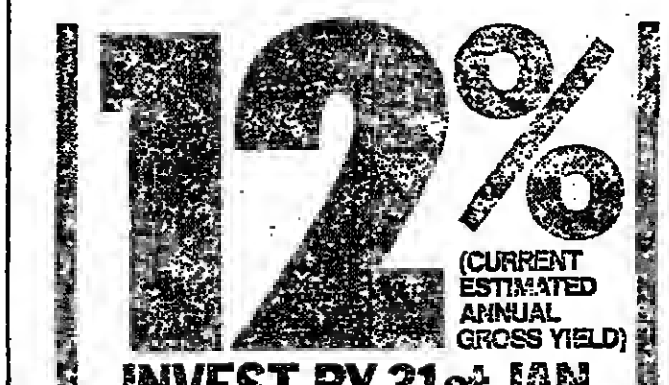
## John Waddington relapses and hopes of upturn muted

By Ashley Drucker

With the rider that half-time results are no guide to reality, John Waddington, the leisure, hotel and packaging group, slumped from £15.1m to £12.0m before tax in the half year to October 12. This heers out the warning at the annual meeting.

In general, good results came from publishing, but packaging and printing was poor and there is no sign of an upturn. But cash resources are strong. The board is ready to finance the group's national and international business recovery forecast for the end of 1975.

In the preceding 12 months to March 31, 1975, the group had a good second half. Profits rose by 24 per cent to a record £2.42m. Among its products, Suburban greening cards, Suburban games, and playing cards.



(CURRENT ESTIMATED ANNUAL GROSS YIELD)

**INVEST BY 31st JAN.**

**FOR NEXT QUARTERLY PAYMENT**

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2. Investment Trust Income Shares.
3. Preference Shares.

The preference shares provide both stability and an ultra high initial income while the equity and income share portion (currently over 50% of the fund) offers good income growth prospects.

**GROWTH POTENTIAL**

Our strategy is to select shares not only for high yield but also for possible future appreciation of capital and of income.

It is best to regard the fund as a long term investment and you should remember that the price of units and the income from them can go down as well as up.

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**INCOME UNITS 41.5p ACCUM. UNITS 47.3p (OR THE DAILY PRICE IF LOWER)**

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## Bonds Abbey Life's new policies

Abbey Life Assurance has bowed to common practice and launched a Managed Fund.

The company's three-year-old Selective Bond, which was basically a managed fund but masquerading under the name of a bond, has been closed to new comers. It has been replaced by the new Managed Fund, which will be divided among Abbey's large Property Bond fund and its Equity fund or directly into equities and fixed interest investments.

In-house thinking at the moment for this Managed Fund is to put 40 per cent into property, 45 per cent into equities and the remaining 15 per cent into fixed interest investments.

Taking advantage of the name change, Abbey has wisely concentrated on simplifying some of the provisions relating to its linked contracts, whether single premium or regular premium. First, the company is now making a deduction for capital gains tax in the price of the units. This, again, is increas-

ingly common practice in the industry and a welcome one.

For regular premium policyholders Abbey has devised a new contract called the Security Plan to go with the new bond fund. It is a whole-of-life policy with a fixed maturity date to be completed at the outset, although policyholders may surrender the contract as and when they wish.

Like most other linked-life offices Abbey is moving on to a system of front-end loading. This means that a certain number of early premiums are not invested. These premiums ranging from eight months' premiums for a 10-year plan to 17 months' for a 35-year term, cover the costs including insurance costs.

A novelty, however, is that provided the contract runs the full term, these premiums are included in maturity values as though they had been invested from the outset.

A deduction for capital gains tax in the price of the units. This, again, is increas-

into the security plan. A policyholder who wishes to guarantee that at maturity he will receive no less than the value of his total contributions can do so by reducing the unit allocation by 5 per cent; ie, 5 per cent less is invested each month.

However, should the policyholder find that when his policy matures its value is greater than his total contributions, then the company will return the 5 per cent deduction plus the growth which would have been had it been invested during the normal way.

The new policy is a big improvement in Abbey's repertoire of products and I like the incentives that have been built into the plan for long-term investors who hold their policy to maturity. Such policy will be getting their life cover free plus a valuable "Heads I win, tails you lose" in the guarantee option. However, it's a costly option for those who won't end up staying the course or, indeed, for those who wish to take a profit when the occasion occurs.

## Unit trust performance

UNIT TRUSTS: Medium & Income funds (progress this year and the past three years). Unitholder index: 1,701.4; rise from January 1, 1975: 2.3%.

Average change offered to bid, net income included, over past 12 months: 4.74% over 3 years: 19.9%.

Statistics supplied by Money Management and Unitholder, 30 Finsbury Square, London, E.C.2.

oydall Banking	109.9	-31.7	Bishopsgate Prog F	65.9	-31.9	A
oydall Bank Sec	109.5	-16.8	Wickmoreport	65.5	-31.4	A
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# Stock Exchange Prices Prices soar

ACCOUNT-DAYS: Dealings Begin, Monday, Dealings End, Jan 23, 5 Contango Day, Jan 26, Settlement Day, Feb 3  
5 Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

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## General

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